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BIOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL

OF

Ringgold and Union Counties, Iowa.

Vol. 2

CONTAINING PORTRAITS OF ALL THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES FROM WASHINGTON TO CLEVELAND, WITH ACCOMPANYING BIOGRAPHIES OF EACH; A CONDENSED HISTORY OF THE STATE OF IOWA; PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE TERRITORY AND STATE; ENGRAVINGS OF PROMINENT CITIZENS IN RINGGOLD AND UNION COUNTIES, WITH PERSONAL HISTORIES OF MANY OF THE LEADING FAMILIES, AND A CONCISE HISTORY OF RINGGOLD AND UNION COUNTIES AND THEIR CITIES AND VILLAGES.

THE LEWIS PUBLISHING COMPANY,
113 ADAMS STREET, CHICAGO.
1887.

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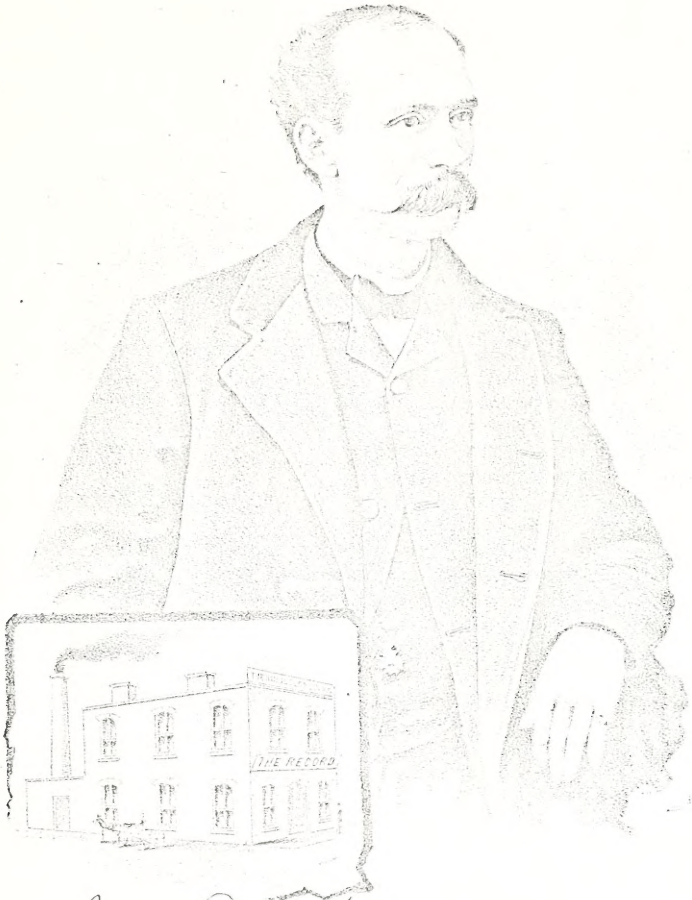


Very Truly Yours,

Geo. D. Stephens

PROPRIETOR OF
THE RINGGOLD RECORD
MT. AGE, IOWA

school education, after which he taught school about four years. In 1873 he came to Ringgold County. In 1876 he purchased a half interest in the *Ringgold Record*, the Republican newspaper of the county. In about a year his partner expressed a willingness to buy or sell. Mr. Stephens concluded to buy. He has remained in this business ever since. He started without a dollar, and has made his way entirely unaided. He has evinced that kind of perseverance that never fails to win success. The *Record*, under his administration, has grown, from a poorly-printed little sheet, with a very poor outfit indeed, to the dignity of a fine-looking paper, occupying a two-story brick building of its own. Mr. Stephens was married in Litchfield, Connecticut, in 1876, to Miss Adelia Morse, and they have one child.

JAMES M. SIMPSON, section 17, Jefferson Township, was born in Greene County, Tennessee, December 26, 1832, his father, John Simpson, being a native of Montgomery County, Virginia, and was a miller by trade. The father was a Lieutenant in the war of 1812. The grandfather of our subject, Allen Simpson, was a Captain during the war of the Revolution and was wounded at the battle of Monmouth. Our subject passed his boyhood days on a farm in Fountain County, Indiana, to which county his parents removed in 1836, his mother dying there the same year. His father died in 1844, after which he lived with a farmer, named John Sturns. His education was received in the schools of Fountain County, he attending the log-cabin subscription schools, and in 1852 began attending the free school which was organized there about that time. He began teaching school at the age of sixteen years, and taught till he had bought his time for which he paid $150, receiving $12 a month. He then attended school at Bloomingdale, Indiana, where he was a fellow student with Hon. Joe Cannon, Congressman for Illinois, after which he taught a select school in Montgomery, Indiana. He went to Rock Island, Illinois, in 1853, and taught a subscription school on Buffalo Prairie until March, 1854, and while there he saw the first train that reached the Mississippi River. He then went to Oberlin College, Ohio, and while there was taken sick. On recovering his health he taught in his former school for a time. In August, 1855, he went over part of Iowa on foot, and while on this tramp, was overtaken by General Crocker who took him into his buggy. He returned to Indiana in September, 1855, where he taught till the spring of 1858. He was married June 10, 1856, to Jane E. Gilkey, a native of Montgomery County, Indiana, and a daughter of William Gilkey. They have had nine children born to them, of whom six are living—Maggie, Allen, Myra, Martha, Ella and Nancy E. He went to Ford County, Illinois, in the spring of 1858, and there engaged in farming and stock-raising. While living in Ford County he had his barn blown down, and his horses killed by a tornado. He returned to Indiana the same year, and in the spring of 1861 returned to Ford County, Illinois, where he worked on his farm, and at nights wrote for the Crawfordsville *Journal*, of which he was editor. He helped to organize the Republican party, and was the Republican candidate for Montgomery County, Indiana, in 1864, and although his township was largely Democratic, he carried it by eighty majority. He became a resident of Ringgold County, Iowa, in September, 1875, when he settled on his present farm. Since coming to this county he has been very successful in his agricultural pursuits, and has in his home farm 240 acres, of well improved land.

He is still engaged in general farming and stock-raising, paying special attention to graded stock. He still devotes a little time to literary pursuits, and is at present correspondent for the Creston *Gazette*.

WILLIAM H. BRADLEY, farmer, section 5, Athens Township, was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, October 14, 1829. His parents were William H. and Maria (Bell) Bradley, the former a native of Ireland, and the latter of Washington County. They reared a family of four children—William H., Mary, Ellen, Margaret. William was the oldest child, and when he was four years of age his parents removed to Brownsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, where he received his education. He attended the same school with James G. Blaine for a time. In 1839 the family removed to Jefferson, Greene County, where they remained until 1845, thence to Washington County, thence to Allegheny County in three years, and in 1852 removed to Wayne County, Ohio. He was married October 16, 1856, to Miss Catharine Stair, a native of Germany, and daughter of John and Christina (Mosses) Stair. In the fall of 1856 Mr. Bradley came to Iowa, and settled in Poe Township, Ringgold County. At that time Mt. Ayr had only eight log houses. In the spring of 1857 he located on the B. B. Dunning place, where he resided until the fall of 1860, then removed to section 21, Poe Township, where he remained until the breaking out of the civil war. He enlisted August 10, 1862, in Company G, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and was engaged in the battles of Helena, Little Rock, Camden, Mobile, and several minor engagements. He was honorably discharged and returned to his home in Ringgold County. In 1879 he removed to section 1, and in 1876 to section 9, Athens Township. In 1879 he moved upon his present farm, which was then in a wild state. He has improved it until he has brought it to its present condition. He has a fine residence, and a barn, 32 x 36 feet, an orchard of eighty trees and small fruits, and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. Mr. and Mrs. Bradley are the parents of five children—Keziah, Joseph, Louis, Seigel and Zephina. Mr. Bradley is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic post at Mt. Ayr, and also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Lodge 69. By honest dealing he has won the confidence and respect of all who know him. Postoffice, Kellerton.

GEORGE DICKSON, one of the early settlers of Union Township, living on section 9, is a native of Crawford County, Ohio, born June 14, 1834, a son of George and Agnes Dickson. He was reared a farmer, and has made that the avocation of his life, and by his own efforts has acquired a competency, and become the owner of a good and comfortable home. Mr. Dickson came to Ringgold County, Iowa, in April, 1859, and the same season visited Kansas, and looked over a part of that State. He then returned to this county where his brother John had located in 1856. He remained in Union Township until July 4, 1861, when he was married to Miss Eliza J. Ambrosier, a daughter of Jacob Ambrosier, of Crawford County, Iowa, Mr. Dickson having returned to his native county for that purpose. In September following he left Crawford County with Sylvester Beaver, returning to Ringgold County with 600 sheep, which they owned between them, two months being occupied in driving the sheep to this county. The

first year of his married life was spent on his brother John's farm, when he removed to the farm where he has since followed agricultural pursuits. When he first settled on his present farm nine acres had been cleared and a small cabin built. The homestead now contains 200 acres of improved land, with good residence and farm buildings, which is the result of years of toil and industry. Mr. and Mrs. Dickson are the parents of three sons and one daughter—Willis, married to Ruth Liles and living on part of his father's farm; Emma Agnes, wife of Jerry Chitwood, of Union Township; Jacob and Homer living at home. Mr. and Mrs. Dickson are members of the Christian church. In national politics Mr. Dickson votes the Democratic ticket, but in local elections casts his vote for the man whom he considers best fitted for office.

ARCULUS LENT, residing on section 3, Union Township, where he has a fine farm of 120 acres, was born in Holmes County, Ohio, February 17, 1834, a son of John and Sarah (Miles) Lent. Both parents are deceased, the father dying in Creston, Iowa, and the mother in Ohio. Mr. Lent has been a resident of the Hawkeye State for thirty-one years, and for almost eighteen years has made his home in Ringgold County. In 1855 he located in Clarke County, Iowa, and the first two years worked in a saw-mill at Hopeville. He then engaged in farming and before leaving that county became the owner of two farms, and commenced the improvement of both. He was married March 8, 1857, to Miss Catherine Miller, who was born in Brown County, Ohio, May 1, 1836, a daughter of Henry and Sarah Miller, who were among the early settlers of Doyle Township, Clarke County, Iowa. Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lent six are living—John H., Thomas M., Alfred T., Charles W., Mina E. and James W., all living at home except Thomas, who resides in Kansas. Three daughters, Sarah E., Libby R. and Alice E., died in infancy. In April, 1869, Mr. Lent brought his family to Ringgold County and commenced improving his present farm, which he has converted from a state of nature to one of the best farms in his neighborhood. Mr. and Mrs. Lent are members of the Christian church. In politics Mr. Lent is independent, voting for men, not party.

JOHN C. SINCO, section 1, Riley Township, was born in Greene County, Indiana, January 12, 1839, a son of Henry and Jane Sinco, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of South Carolina. They were married in Indiana, and when our subject was four years old moved to Jefferson County, Iowa, being among the pioneer families of that county. Subsequently they moved to Decatur County, and there the father bought 300 acres of land, and laid out a town which he named Paris, but which is now called High Point. Selling that property they moved to Ringgold County, in 1855, and settled on section 2, Riley Township, and there the father died in 1874, aged seventy-four years. The mother is now living at Kellerton. Their family consisted of seven children—John C.; Columbus B., who died while serving his country, in the twenty-first year of his age; Mary Ellen, wife of Frank Scott, of Decatur County; Martha, deceased, wife of Gilbert Mark; Caroline, wife of J. H. Johnson, of Nebraska; Charlotte, wife of Dell Ferguson, of Decatur County; Margaret, wife of William Barnes, of Riley Township. John C. Sinco was married May 24, 1863, to Caroline Cling, who was

born in Huntington County, Indiana, April 27, 1846, daugater of J. W. Cling, who moved to Illinois in 1850, and in 1857 to Harrison County, Missouri, and is now a resident of Decatur County, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Sinco have seven children—Sarah, wife of A. I. Paullin; Lawn Dora, Florence Mary, Lulu Lillian, John H., Nancy Anna and Jessie Maud. The fine farm property of 300 acres owned by Mr. Sinco was entered and entirely improved by himself. In politics he is a Republican. He has served his township acceptably and efficiently in several public positions, and at present is school treasurer.

JOHN D. MOORE was born in Greene County, Indiana, June 10, 1844, a son of Jacob and Rebecca (Sparks) Moore, natives of Virginia and Ohio respectively, the father going to Indiana when about four years of age. The parents left Indiana for Cedar County, Iowa, when he was about ten years old, where the father followed farming till he retired from active life. The mother is still living in Cedar County. Of the five children born to the parents only two are now living—John D., and Sarah, wife of M. S. Gaddord, now living in Clinton County. John D. Moore, our subject, was the eldest child in his father's family. He received good educational advantages, attending the district schools, and later entered Oskaloosa College, where he pursued his studies for one year. On leaving school he entered the Union army, enlisting in Company E, Eleventh Iowa Infantry, and was a member of the Army of the Tennessee, Seventeenth Army Corps, under command of General Blair. He participated in the battles of Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta campaign, and at Bentonville, North Carolina, being in the service eighteen months. He was honorably discharged, and was mustered out in July, 1865. After the war he returned to Cedar County, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was married in 1867 to Miss Elizabeth C. Goodwin, of Greene County, Indiana, a daughter of Abner Goodwin. They have seven children—Jacob H., William H., Lillie B., Frank M., John A., Sadie E. and Paul R. Mr. and Mrs. Moore began married life on a farm in Cedar County, Iowa, where they lived till 1874. They then came with their family to Ringgold County, and lived on a farm south of Tingley for four years. They then returned to Cedar County, coming again to Ringgold County in the fall of 1884, when they settled on section 10, Tingley Township, their farm containing 320 acres of improved land, all under fence and seeded down to grass. He is one of the successful farmers of his township, where he is also engaged in the manufacture of cheese. He milks thirty cows, and sends out about 400 pounds of cheese a week. He and his wife are active members of the Christian church, of which he is an elder. He was licensed as an evangelist eight years ago, and has since been engaged in the ministry, his church being at Tingley, of which he was one of the organizers.

WILLIAM QUINN, one of the old pioneers of Ringgold County, Iowa, now living in Jefferson Township, was born in Fleming County, Ohio, the date of his birth being September 29, 1830. His father, Joseph Quinn, was a native of Kentucky, and was one of the early settlers of Fleming County. William Quinn was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving such education as the rude log-cabin subscription schools of that early day afforded. He left his native State with his parents when about four years of age, they locating

in Shelby County, Indiana, in 1834. There he remained till the fall of 1854, when he came to Iowa, living in Marion County until the following spring, since which he has been a resident of this county. On coming to the county he settled in Jefferson (then Washington) Township, on wild land, when Indians and wild animals were the principal inhabitants of the surrounding country, and there he experienced many of the hardships and privations incident to life in a new country. He was always been a hard-working citizen, and by his persevering industry he has converted his land into a well-cultivated farm, and is now engaged in general farming and stock-raising. His farm is located on section 15, Jefferson Township, and contains 100 acres. Mr. Quinn was married May 7, 1862, to Miss Sarah J. Hunter, a daughter of Andrew Hunter. Of the eight children born to this union but three are living—William A., Clarinda B. and Minta, all at home. Mrs. Quinn died May 21, 1885. She was an earnest Christian, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Quinn is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

P. JARVIS, superintendent and builder of bridges, residing on section 12, Benton Township, was born in Perry County, Ohio, August 22, 1832, son of Phillip and Mary (Woolf) Jarvis. He resided in his native county until eighteen years of age, assisting on the farm and attending the common schools. He was married February 28, 1856, to Miss Anna Lewis, after which he resided in Hocking County. The following year he came to Clarke County, Iowa, and later removed to Lucas County. In 1865 he came to Ringgold County and settled on section 12, Benton Township. He located on his farm where he now resides July 19, 1875. He owns 137 acres in a high state of cultivation and well improved. He has a good residence, a corn barn, orchard, small fruits, and has been engaged for several years in contracting for and building bridges. He has erected all the county bridges in Ringgold County for several years. He is the inventor of the Jarvis patent for bridges, patented March 4, 1879; he is also the inventor and proprietor of the Jarvis wagon-brake, patented March 2, 1880. The bridges built on the Jarvis patent are considered the best in use. Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis are the parents of ten children — Rebecca, John, Ellen, Catherine, Levi, James, Phebe, Christopher, Samantha and Margaret. Moses is deceased. Mr. Jarvis is a member of the Missionary Baptist church, and politically is a Democrat.

WILL T. LAUGHLIN, senior member of the law firm, Laughlin & Campbell, of Mt. Ayr, Iowa, is a native of De Witt County, Illinois, born at Clinton, March 24, 1840, a son of Thomas and Nancy (Lowry) Laughlin, his father a native of North Carolina, and his mother of Kentucky. His father was a physician, practicing in Springfield and Clinton, but died in the prime of life, in 1843, of pulmonary consumption. The mother is still living. Their family consisted of three children—two sons and one daughter, of whom only the sons are living. The boyhood of our subject was passed in Clinton, Illinois, where he attended the graded schools, and when seventeen years of age he began teaching, which he continued three terms, and in the meantime began the study of law with Hon. L. Weldon, of Clinton, now judge of the Court of Claims at Washington. He was admitted to the bar in 1861, and in the fall of the same year located in Mt. Ayr, and opened an office for the practice of his profession. Two years

later he formed a partnership with I. W. Keller, which continued over five years. In 1873 he was elected district attorney for the Third District, comprising the counties of Page, Montgomery, Taylor, Adams, Ringgold, Union, Decatur and Clarke. At the expiration of three years he resigned, and resumed his practice, becoming associated with Judge Henry, under the firm name of Henry & Laughlin. Four years later this partnership was dissolved, and the firm of Laughlin & Campbell was formed. In 1863-'4 Mr. Laughlin was superintendent of schools of Ringgold County. He was appointed county judge in 1862, *vice* Judge Keller, resigned. He was married March 10, 1861, to Louisa J. Bates, daughter of Ansel Bates. They have two children —Lora B. and L. Weldon. Mr. Laughlin is a member of both the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders.

PETER A. WHEELER, farmer and stock-raiser, living on section 9, Liberty Township, was born in Jefferson County, New York, May 17, 1840. When he was four years of age his parents, Peter and Polly (Millard) Wheeler, removed to Fulton County, Illinois, and there he was reared on a farm, his father being a farmer by occupation. His parents lived till their death in Fulton County, the father dying in the year 1876, and the mother in 1884. Peter A. enlisted in the service of his country at the age of eighteen years, becoming a member of Company H, Seventeenth Illinois Infantry, in which regiment he served about six months, when he was transferred to Company F, Eighth Illinois Infantry, in which he served till receiving his discharge, a period of two years and four months. He took part in the raid from Vicksburg to Meridian, Mississippi, and was at the battle of Mobile, and had his clothing cut in many places, but was not wounded. He was mustered out at Baton Rouge in May, 1865, when he returned to Canton, Fulton County, Illinois, and the same fall was married to Miss Louisa J. Mariner, of Canton. They are the parents of four children—Henry E., Lewis L., Hattie I. and Flora Adell. Mr. Wheeler followed farming in Fulton County for three years after his marriage, when he removed to Minnesota, and after spending five years in Cottonwood County, that State, returned to Canton, Illinois. In the spring of 1883 Mr. Wheeler came to Ringgold County, Iowa, when he located on his present farm, which contains 480 acres of well-improved land under high cultivation. He devotes considerable attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of Poland-China hogs, which are of the purest breed and are all entitled to registry. He has on his farm eighty-three head of thorough-bred cattle, and twenty-three horses, and as a stock-raiser Mr. Wheeler ranks with the best of his township. He is an active and enterprising citizen, and during his residence in Liberty Township has won many friends by his genial manners and fair and honorable dealings.

GEORGE W. LESAN, an early settler of Ringgold County, and an enterprising farmer of Poe Township, is a native of Penobscot County, Maine, born February 11, 1830, a son of John and Elizabeth (Brooks) Lesan, also natives of Maine. In 1831 his parents moved to Ohio, and in 1836 to Illinois, where the mother died in 1852. George W. is the sixth of twelve children, six of whom are living. He commenced the battle of life for himself when twenty years of age, and in 1853 was married to Mary M. Leasure. In the spring of 1855 he came to Iowa, and entered 240 acres of land from the Government.

His first dwelling in the county, which was also the first one in Mt. Ayr, was a round-log cabin, 16 x 18 feet, covered with clapboards, with the ground for the floor for some time, until one of puncheon could be substituted. He lived in this house ten years, and opened up his farm. His present residence is commodious, and his farm buildings are large and comfortable. Before the railroad was built the town was laid out and called Lesanville, but on the advent of the railroad the name was changed, and both village and postoffice are called Lesan. He established the first store in the place, which at present is conducted by his nephew, Arthur L. Lesan, his son, O. L. Lesan, being postmaster, appointed in April, 1884. Mr. Lesan has had a family of seven children, but four are living—Laura E., wife of A. F. Beard; Owen L., Burrett M. and Cassius T. Mr. Lesan has served his township as justice of the peace, trustee and supervisor. He is an intelligent, public-spirited citizen, lending his influence to the side of law and order.

THOMAS STAMPER, engaged in farming and stock-raising on sections 20 and 21, Grant Township, where he has 720 acres of good land, is a native of England, born September 30, 1832, a son of Thomas and Mary Stamper, who were also natives of England. On first coming to America Mr. Stamper located in Michigan, where he remained two years. He then removed to Illinois, and for thirty-five years made his home in Kendall County. On leaving Illinois he came to Ringgold County, and settled on the farm where he now resides, which is one of the best farms to be found in the county. His residence is large and commodious, and his barn and out-buildings are noticeably good, and his orchard covers twelve acres of land. In connection with his general farming he is extensively engaged in feeding stock, and is one of the best farmers in Grant Township. Mr. Stamper was united in marriage to Miss Anna Turbey, who was born in the year 1840, a daughter of William and Mary Turbey, natives of England. They are the parents of seven children, six sons and one daughter—William, Frank, John, Edward, Richard, Minnie and Thomas. In politics Mr. Stamper casts his suffrage with the Republican party.

H. M. BAUMANN, engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 4, Lincoln Township, is a native of Pennsylvania, born April 20, 1852, a son of J. G. and Hannah (Klingensmith) Baumann, who were natives of Germany and Pennsylvania respectively, the father being the oldest settler of Ringgold County. Our subject was brought by his parents to Iowa in an early day, locating first in Jefferson County, and a short time later came to Ringgold County, and there he experienced many of the privations as well as the pleasures of pioneer life. The surrounding country was then in a state of nature, and Indians and wild animals were the principal inhabitants. H. M. Baumann was reared to agricultural pursuits, and received his education in the district schools. He has lived on his present farm since coming to this county, and is the owner of 320 acres of choice land, which has been acquired by years of toil and industry, and he is classed among the prosperous agriculturists of Lincoln Township. He was united in marriage to Miss Emma A.——who was born in Pennsylvania, December 15, 1852. They have seven children—Harry R., born May 1, 1876; Laura E., born April 21, 1878; E. M., born July 18, 1879; John A., born December 28, 1880;

Ida L., born October 10, 1882; Ada H., born April 26, 1884, and an infant yet unnamed, born March 19, 1886. In politics Mr. Baumann affiliates with the Republican party. Mr. Baumann has on his farm a very fine orchard covering three acres. His residence and farm buildings are comfortable and commodious, and everything about his place betokens the thrift and care of its owner.

EDGAR J. PRATT, a member of the firm of Cole & Pratt, lumber-dealers, was born in Cayuga County, New York, September 17, 1841, a son of Joseph L. and Amy S. (Fox) Pratt. When he was three years old he was taken by his parents to Whitewater, Wisconsin, where the father followed his business, that of a carriage manufacturer, for many years. He died in 1878, his wife surviving him a few years. They were the parents of three sons and four daughters, Edgar J. being the sixth child. He passed his youth in Whitewater, receiving a limited education in the schools of that place. At the age of nineteen years he enlisted in Company H, Thirteenth Wisconsin Infantry, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in the battles of Nashville, Tennessee, and Chattanooga, under General Thomas, besides other engagements, serving faithfully nearly four years. He was mustered out of the service at New Orleans, in July, 1865, when he returned to Whitewater, Wisconsin. He then formed a partnership with his brother, John H. Pratt, in the mercantile business, which continued two years, when Edgar Pratt went to White Hall, Michigan, where he was engaged in buying and selling shingles, ties and lumber for two years. Mr. Pratt was married in 1864 to Miss Jennie S. Cole, of Whitewater, Wisconsin, the only daughter of W. Cole, Sr. They have two daughters, Emma S. and Edith May. In 1869 Mr. Pratt removed with his family to Mason City, Iowa, where he engaged in the mercantile business, remaining there about seven years. He then formed a partnership with W. W. Lyons, they organizing the Poweshiek County Bank, at Brooklyn, Iowa, of which Mr. Pratt was cashier. In 1879 Mr. Pratt came to Mt. Ayr, where he was engaged in mercantile pursuits for two years. In 1880 he became associated with W. Cole, Jr., thus forming the present lumber firm of Cole & Pratt. Mr. Pratt is one of the active and public-spirited citizens of Mt. Ayr, and during his residence in Ringgold County has gained the confidence and respect of all who know him. In the fall of 1883 he was elected a member of the Board of Supervisors, of which he is at present chairman, and is also president of the School Board. Mr. Pratt is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the lodge at Mason City. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

JASPER K. DENHART, an early settler and prominent citizen of Washington Township, lives on section 30, where he has a good farm of 145 acres, all well improved, with a comfortable residence and farm buildings. He was born in Germany, March 15, 1839, a son of George and Christina W. (King) Denhart. When he was two years of age his parents came to America, being four weeks in making the journey from Havre de Gras to New York. They went direct to Cincinnati, Ohio, where they lived two years, and then went to Pickaway County, the same State, where the father was employed on the canal, and there died. The mother subsequently married again. He remained

with his mother until manhood, in his youth being employed in a brick yard. On leaving home he went to Harrison County, Indiana, and thence, in 1852, to Marion County, Iowa, and three years later to Ringgold County, locating first at Mt. Ayr, where he was living at the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion, and in 1861 he enlisted in the defense of his country, and was assigned to Company G, Fourth Iowa Infantry. He served four years, participating in many severe engagements, among others being the battles at Pea Ridge, Vicksburg, and Atlanta, and accompanied Sherman to the sea. He was mustered out at Davenport, Iowa, in August, 1865, and returned to Mt. Ayr, where he lived until 1866, when he located on his present farm. He was married in May, 1866, to Rachel M. Miller, daughter of J. D. Miller, of Ringgold County. They have a family of nine children—Mary, James, George W., Clarence, Maud, Howard, Jennie, Lora and Julia. One son, Thomas, died aged six years.

J. B. EDWARDS, farmer, section 22, Clinton Township, is a native of Hancock County, Tennessee, where he was born April 22, 1836, son of William and Mary (Bishop) Edwards. He was the second of seven children, and when fourteen years of age his father removed to Davis County, Iowa, where the family resided three years, then removed to Clarke County. He was reared a farmer, and received his education in the common schools. He was married January 26, 1869, to Miss Sarah Miner, a native of Jefferson County, Indiana, and daughter of R. H. and Sarah A. (Wright) Miner. In December, 1863, Mr. Edwards enlisted in Company B, Eighteenth Iowa Infantry, and was on post duty at Fort Smith, Arkansas, most of the time. He was honorably discharged in August, 1865, and returned to Clarke County, where he resided a few months, then removed to Worth County, Missouri, where he lived until 1882, then located upon his present farm, where he has since resided. He purchased this land of one Jacob Huntsman. He owns 194 acres in a good state of cultivation and well improved, located one mile south of Redding. He has a good one-and-a-half story residence, well furnished, surrounded by native shade trees, a good orchard and small fruits, and everything about the premises indicates the thrifty farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have two children living—Oliver H., born October 31, 1861, and Elbert E., now thirteen years of age. Oliver H. was reared a farmer, and educated in the common schools. He is a member of the Missionary Baptist church. He was married November 26, 1884, to Miss Mary E. Abarr, born in Ringgold County, and daughter of Daniel and Ann M. Abarr. They have one child—Orville R. Mr. Edwards is a member of the Missionary Baptist church, and in politics is a Republican. He is a man very highly esteemed and is considered one of the leading men of the township. Postoffice, Redding.

T. T. LEE, farmer and stock-dealer, section 28, is numbered among the enterprising and successful business men of Athens Township. He was born in Henry County, Iowa, July 1, 1854, son of S. M. Lee, a native of Illinois, who came to Henry County in 1838, when Burlington had but one log store. His mother was E. Carter, a native of West Virginia. His parents reared a family of eleven children, and all are living. Our subject was the third child, and when two years of age his father removed to Union County, where the family resided four years. They then

returned to Henry County, where they lived eight years, thence to Union County again. In 1874 the family came to Ringgold County. Mr. Lee received his education at Mt. Pleasant and New London. He was married November 15, 1877, to Miss Mary Livermore, of Ringgold County, daughter of A. Livermore, and a year later settled upon his present farm which was then wild land. He purchased eighty acres, and has since added to his first purchase until he now has 213 acres under a high state of cultivation. He has a good, comfortable residence surrounded by shade and ornamental trees, an orchard of 200 trees and small fruits, a barn, 40 x 44 feet, and out-buildings for stock, etc. He is engaged in stock-raising, feeding, and shipping stock. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are the parents of five children—Leslie, Ray, Lucy, Frank and Charlie. Politically he is a Greenbacker. Although a young man he has gained a good position both socially and financially, and is classed among the best citizens of the county. Postoffice, Kellerton.

G. W. WILLIAMS, postoffice, Goshen, engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 25, Lincoln Township, was born in Maryland, November 7, 1827, a son of William and Anna (Corson) Williams, the father being a native of Pennsylvania, and the mother of Maryland. G. W., our subject, was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he has followed the greater part of his life. At the age of twenty-one years he began clerking in a dry-goods store, which he followed three years. December 5, 1851, he was united in marriage to Miss Henrietta Nulph, who was born in Pennsylvania, February 6, 1831, her parents, George C. and Barbara Nulph, being natives of Pennsylvania. To Mr. and Mrs. Williams have been born nine children: Francis A., born April 4, 1852; George A., born April 3, 1853; M. C., born April 3, 1855; Martha L., born May 5, 1857; Alice H., born February 4, 1859; Mary F., born January 27, 1861; John, born February 18, 1863; A. H., born February 16, 1865; and C. A., born March 30, 1867. Mr. Williams came to Ringgold County, Iowa, in an early day, being among the first settlers of Jefferson Township, where he first located. There he endured many of the hardships and privations incident to the life of a pioneer, going to St. Joseph, Missouri, for provisions, which took six days to make the trip, grinding his flour (buckwheat) in a coffee mill, the nearest mill being at Osceola. His first house in Ringgold County was a rude log cabin with puncheon floor. He came to Lincoln Township with his family in 1878, when he settled on the farm where he has since made his home; here he has 160 acres of well-cultivated land, and good residence and farm-buildings, and is now classed among Ringgold County's best farmers. In politics Mr. Williams is a Democrat. Since coming to Lincoln Township he has served as school director, and also as president of the School Board. Mrs. Williams is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

EDWARD STUCK, farmer, section 4, Lott's Creek Township, is one of the old pioneers who has been identified with the interests of Ringgold County for the past thirty years, and is well worthy of a notice in its history. He was born in Union County, Pennsylvania, October 10, 1825, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth Stuck. He was reared on a farm, and received his education in the common schools of that day. When he was about twenty-one years of age, his parents removed to Henry County, Ohio, where they remained

one year, thence to Lucas County, remaining two years, thence to Seneca County, then returned to Lucas County, thence to Sandusky County. He was married December 14, 1851, to Miss Catharine Walter, a native of Stark County, Ohio, and daughter of John and Sarah Walter. In 1854 he came to Keokuk, Iowa, and in the spring of 1855 removed to Davis County, Missouri. In September of the same year he came to Ringgold County, and located in Lott's Creek Township. In the spring of 1856 he came to his present farm, where he has since resided. It was then in a wild state, and his first residence was a log cabin, which still stands as a landmark of pioneer days. His farm contains 100 acres, and is in a good state of cultivation. He has a fine story-and-a-half residence, erected in 1878, modern style and well furnished, a good orchard of 100 trees, small fruits, and a grove of native maples. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. Mr. and Mrs. Stuck have one child—John E., born October 23, 1852. He is a young man of intelligence and good business qualifications. He resides at home and assists in the care and management of the farm. Mr. Stuck started in life without means, but by industry and economy he has acquired a fine property. Politically he is a Republican. Postoffice, Caledonia.

IRA A. PALMER, an active and successful agriculturist of Liberty Township, is a native of Canada, his parents, Wilkinson and Nancy (Hurde) Palmer, moving from Rhode Island to Canada a short time prior to his birth, which occurred January 21, 1835. At an early age he was taken by his parents to Warren County, Illinois, and in that county he grew to manhood, being reared on a farm. He engaged in the manufacture of two horse cultivators at Monmouth, Illinois, which he followed for several years. During this time he was married to Miss Sarah J. Morris, of Monmouth, who died in 1868, leaving six children, who are all doing for themselves. Mr. Palmer was again married in 1883, to Mrs. Ella Nicholas, a daughter of James Spencer, who had two children by her former marriage. In 1871 Mr. Palmer came to Ringgold County, since which time he has resided on his farm on section 5, Liberty Township. His farm contains 320 acres all under fence and well-improved, and during his residence here he has followed general farming and stock-raising, paying special attention to a good grade of cattle and hogs, in which pursuit he is meeting with success. Mr. Palmer has held the office of justice of the peace of Liberty Township for six years. He has been president of the Ringgold County Agricultural Society for some eight years, and by his strict and honorable dealings has gained the confidence of all who know him.

JOHN F. PAGE, is a native of Ringgold County, Iowa, born in Rice Township, September 19, 1861, a son of Edward Page, who was a native of the State of New York. The father came to Ringgold County, Iowa, in 1856, and settled on wild land, where he built a log cabin in which our subject was born. He was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, and lost his life while in the service of his country. John F. Page, the subject of this sketch was reared to farming pursuits, which he has made the principal avocation of his life. His education was obtained in the common schools of this county. His mother died when he was three years old, and his father dying not long after he was thus early in life left an orphan. In 1877 he went to Dakota where he remained for

five years, most of which time he was engaged in herding cattle, and while there was deputy marshal in Deadwood City for one year. He returned to Ringgold County, and is now devoting his attention to general farming, on section 5, Jefferson Township, where he is numbered among the enterprising young farmers of his neighborhood. Mr. Page was united in marriage August 19, 1884, to Miss Martha Kurtz, a daughter of John Kurtz, of Henry County, Iowa. They are the parents of one child, a daughter named Ina M. Mrs. Page is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

ALPHEUS M. GUSTIN, an old settler of Ringgold County, and an active and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Jefferson Township, living on section 7, was born in Adams County, Ohio, February 25, 1844. His father, Jeremiah Gustin, brought his family to Iowa in 1855, when he located in Marion County, coming to Ringgold County in the spring of 1857. The family settled on wild land and the first night camped on their new homestead, while the wolves howled all around them. Their house was the first frame dwelling in Ringgold County, the frame-work being hewed from the timber, and the siding, doors and flooring being hauled from Marion County, a distance of 100 miles. For two years they went to Marion County for provisions, and their nearest mill was in Missouri, fifty miles from their home. The father at one time was snow bound while going to mill, and was unable to return home for three weeks. They tramped their grain out, and sometimes flailed it out, on a dirt floor. Such were some of their experiences of pioneer life, but their hardships and privations are over, and they now enjoy the fruits of their years of toil. Alpheus M. Gustin, the subject of this sketch, was reared amid pioneer scenes, and his youth was spent in assisting to clear and cultivate the home farm. He was married June 4, 1865, to Miss Catherine T. Harvey, and of the six children born to this union two are deceased—Emmitt and Oscar. The names of those yet living are—William, Charles, Blanch and Fred. Mr. Gustin has met with success in his agricultural pursuits, and has now a well-cultivated farm, where he resides, containing 340 acres of valuable land, which is farmed by himself with the assistance of his two sons, besides which they thresh and shell corn for the neighborhood. He has the latest improved machinery on his farm, and good farm buildings for the accommodation of his stock. Mr. Gustin takes an interest in any enterprise for the advancement of the cause of education or religion. He has taught school himself, following that vocation during seven winters, and was president of the School Board for two terms. He has held the office of justice of the peace one term, was township trustee two terms, and has also served as road supervisor. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is superintendent of Mortimer Sabbath-school.

ADDISON C. PAYNE, one of the leading agriculturists of Ringgold County, now living in Mt. Ayr, is a native of Vermillion County, Illinois, born February 29, 1844, a son of John and Letta (O'Neal) Payne. The grandfather of our subject, John Payne, was a native of New York, and one of the early settlers of Vermillion County, Illinois, where his son John was born. Addison C. was left an orphan at an early age, his mother dying when he was about four years old, and his father

being killed during the late war in the riot at Danville, Illinois. At the age of five years he was bound out to John E. Cooper, a practical farmer and stock trader of Vermillion County, with whom he remained for sixteen years, and during this time received a limited education in the common schools. On attaining the age of twenty-one years he started out in life for himself without means and the two years following was employed on a farm, receiving $[illegible] a month the first year, and the second year his wages were increased to about $33 a month. He was married in September, 1867, to Miss Sarah H. Guymon, of Vermillion County, her father, Frank Guymon, being now a resident of Carroll County, Missouri. They are the parents of two children—Alta and Ora V. In the spring of 1867 Mr. Payne went to Madison County, Iowa, and during that summer broke prairie, and the same fall bought wheat, which he sold at Des Moines. He then began dealing in cheap land, in which enterprise he made his first money. After his marriage he removed from Madison to Adams County, where he purchased a farm, and after breaking his land sold it. In 1869 he assisted in laying the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and acted as paymaster of three divisions of surveying companies, locating the road from Afton to Council Bluffs. He also furnished supplies for the three companies of surveyors, each company composed of twenty men, and furnished his team for the sum of $100 a month. In January, 1871, Mr. Payne purchased a farm in the east part of Ringgold County, which he sold in the fall of the same year, and bought land in Grant Township, this county, and to his original eighty acres he has added until he now owns 640 acres of choice land and was there actively engaged in dealing in cattle until March, 1864, when, on account of failing health, he left his farm and removed to Mt. Ayr, where he has since lived somewhat retired, though still looking after his business interests and trading in stock on a small scale. Mr. Payne may be classed among the self-made men of this county, having by his own energy and industrious habits accumulated a competency for his declining years. Besides his large farm in Grant Township he owns other land in the county, his real estate covering [illegible] acres.

NATHAN MILLER, farmer, section 22, Middle Fork Township, is one of the well-known and worthy citizens of Ringgold County, and was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, April 17, 1[illegible]. His father was Henry Miller, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. His early life was spent assisting on the farm and attending the common schools of his native State. December 9, 1847, he was married to Miss Sarah M. Shaffer, daughter of Jacob and Margaret (McHenry) Shaffer. He resided in Rockbridge County until September 12, 1855, when, with wife and five children he started for Iowa, with horse team and wagon. He arrived in Louisa County October 27, where he spent the winter, and the following March came to Ringgold County and located upon his present farm in Middle Fork Township. He first preempted the land from the Government. His first residence was a log cabin, 14 x 16 feet, with puncheon floor and clapboard roof, and the furniture was of home manufacture. In November, 1862, he was elected Captain of Company B, Third Battalion, Home Guards. He held the office creditably until it was disbanded, in 1864. Mr. Miller has added to his original 16[illegible] acres until he now owns 320 acres of land in a good state of cultivation and well im-

proved. He has a good story-and-a-half residence erected in 1875 and furnished in a manner that betokens the refinement of the family. He has a good orchard of two acres and a variety of small fruits, outbuildings for stock and grain, and everything about the farm indicates the thrift of its proprietor. He is engaged principally in stock-raising and feeding. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are the parents of eleven children—Mattie Showalter, Arskine, Henry, Virginia B. Dugger, Nettie Rector, Alice Bailey, Ella Showalter, Jacob, Paroda, Lulu and Hugh. Maggie Stevens and Herbert are deceased. Mr. Miller has served as township clerk, assessor, member of the School Board and county supervisor. He is a worthy member of the Advent Christian church, and politically is a Republican. He has given his children good educational advantages, and they are well fitted to take responsible positions in life. Postoffice, Ingart.

J. W. BROCKETT, of the firm of Brockett & Bevis, dealers in real estate, abstracts, municipal securities, etc., is a native of Connecticut, born in New Haven, October 2, 1843. When six years of age he was brought by his parents, E. E. and Jane (Bradley) Brockett, to Davenport, Iowa, and there he grew to manhood, receiving his education in the public schools of that city. He began teaching school at the age of eighteen years, a vocation he followed some six years, and in the meantime studied law with the firm of McComas & McKighan, of Fort Scott, Kansas. Completing his law studies he was admitted to the bar in 1875 and commenced the practice of law at Fort Scott, Kansas, where he remained till 1879, at the same time being connected with the mining interests of the place. Mr. Brockett was married in May, 1872, to Miss Catherine Vidal, of Fort Scott, a daughter of John L. Vidal, whose father was a Cuban tobacco merchant. John L. Vidal married the mother of our subject, and is now a resident of Mt. Ayr. Mr. and Mrs. Brockett have five children—John, Frank, Cassie, Eleanor J. and Thomas. Mr. Brockett removed with his family to Mt. Ayr, Ringgold County, Iowa, in November, 1879, and immediately opened a law office. In February, 1883, he formed a partnership with M. L. Bevis, thus forming the present reliable firm of Brockett & Bevis, Mr. Brockett being the attorney for the firm, and by their honorable and upright dealings they have established a good business, and have gained the confidence and respect of all who know them.

JACK GORSUCH resides on section 8, Riley Township, where he occupies the finest farm residence in the county, which he built in 1884, at a cost of $2,800. His home farm contains 200 acres of as fine land as can be found in Ringgold County, all under a good state of cultivation. He also owns a farm of 250 acres on sections 14 and 15 of the same township, where he first established his home in Ringgold County, in 1871. Eighty acres of that farm were entered by his father in 1853 and reserved for him, but no improvements had been made. Thus he commenced life with a deed of the eighty acres and a span of horses, and what he has besides this he has made by his own industry and good management. He lived on section 14 from 1871 till 1884, and then moved to the farm where he now lives. He is ranked among the solid agriculturists of Ringgold County, and is one of Riley Townships most influential citizens. He was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania,

March 2, 1849, a son of John and Ann Gorsuch, also natives of the Keystone State, the son and father being born in the same house. The family moved to Monroe County, Iowa, in 1858, and in that county the father improved four farms. He was an active, useful man and much respected by all who knew him. His death occurred in Monroe County, July 8, 1878, at the age of fifty-six years. The mother still lives on the homestead with five of her children—Mary, Elizabeth E., Sarah E., George W. and Perry E. Two sons besides our subject, Robert and Thomas C., live in Riley Township. One son, William C., lives in Hastings, Nebraska, and another, Esli T., lives in Beadle County, Dakota. Amanda and David A. are deceased. J. Mack Gorsuch remained under the home roof until twenty-two years of age, and then, as before stated, came to Ringgold County. He was married March 12, 1872, to Agnes A. Farmer, who was born in Henry County, Iowa, May 25, 1853, a daughter of James and Rebecca Farmer, her father a native of Ohio, and her mother of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Gorsuch have two children—Minnie M., born February 28, 1874, and Charles E., born May 13, 1880. Mr. Gorsuch has served his township as school director and road supervisor. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

BYRON W. COFFIN, engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 10, Tingley Township, was born in Mahaska County, Iowa, near Oskaloosa, January 22, 1856, a son of Jacob F. and Maria (McClain) Coffin, the father being a pioneer of Mahaska County. Our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, his father being a farmer by occupation, and his education was obtained in the common schools of his native county. He was married in June, 1878, to Lydia Shoemaker of Mahaska County, and to this union have been born two children—Charles and Arthur J. In the spring of 1882 our subject came with his family to Ringgold County, and settled in Tingley Township on part of his father's farm, of 320 acres, he having eighty acres of well-improved land. Jacob F. Coffin, father of our subject, was born in Jackson County, Indiana, June 7, 1834, a son of Samuel and Sophia (Fisher) Coffin, the former born in North Carolina in 1809. Jacob F. was nine years of age when his parents settled in Lee County, Indiana, and a year later moved to Mahaska County, Iowa, where he was married to Maria McClain who was a native of that county. They have four children living. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob F. Coffin now make their home in Ringgold County, Iowa, where they own a fine farm of 320 acres located on section 10, Tingley Township.

JEREMIAH C. GUSTIN, farmer and stock-raiser, living on section 6, Jefferson Township, is a native of Ohio, born in Adams County, June 14, 1846, a son of Jeremiah W. and Rachel (Maddox) Gustin, who were natives of Kentucky and Virginia respectively. The father settled with his family in Marion County, Iowa, in 1855, and in 1857 came to Ringgold County, at which time Indians and wild animals were the principal inhabitants, and here the father entered 1,000 acres of uncultivated land, where the family endured all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. The father died in this county May 16, 1870, and the mother is still living, making her home with her son, Alpheus M., in Jefferson Township. They were the parents of nine children, of whom five are yet living—Mrs. Hannah Cox, Mrs. Victoria

Dunlap, Mrs. Rosetta Ford, Alpheus M. and Jeremiah C. Jeremiah C. has always followed farming, in which he has met with success, being now the owner of 280 acres of well-improved land. He was married November 11, 1875, to Miss Mattie A. Page, a daughter of Edwin Page, who was killed in the late war, having been a member of Company G, Fourth Iowa Infantry. Mr. and Mrs. Gustin have five children—Cary E., Oriental J., Edwin P., Pearl and Violet. Mr. Gustin has served as school director for several years. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

ABS. BAIRD resides on section 1, Clinton Township, and is one of the well-known and leading pioneers of Ringgold County. He was born in Putnam County, Indiana, December 4, 1831. His father, John Baird, was a son of Samuel Baird, a native of Scotland, and was born in Virginia. His mother, Martha (Moore) Baird, was a native of Kentucky. They were married in Indiana and were pioneers of Putnam County, locating in the heavy timber near Putnamville. They reared a family of six children—Samuel, Sarah Jane, Hartley, Mary, Absalom and Martha. Abs. resided in Putnam County until he grew to manhood. His early life was passed in assisting on the farm and in attending the common schools in the log school-houses of that day. After reaching his majority he was engaged in clerking in a store for four years. In 1856 he came to Iowa by team, and was on the road thirty days. He first located upon 120 acres of wild land that his father had entered from the Government in 1853. He was married January 1, 1860, to Miss Isabella Poor, a lady of high culture and education, who was a successful teacher and taught the first school in Clinton and Middle Fork townships. She was a daughter of Alvin Poor, a prominent pioneer of Ringgold County. A short time after his marriage Mr. Baird built a frame house, 16 x 16, the first frame house built in the township. Here he has since resided and improved his land from time to time as his means would permit, and has added to his acres until he has a splendid farm of 565 acres. It is divided into fields for the convenience of stock, and a modern wind-mill furnishes his stock with an abundance of pure water. He has a good, well-furnished house, barn, out-buildings for stock, an orchard of 150 bearing trees, and small fruits. He makes a specialty of stock-raising and feeding, usually keeping from 100 to 150 head of cattle. Mr. and Mrs. Baird are the parents of ten living children—William A., Ida R., Julia B., Alice E., Samuel C., Bertha M., James Claude, Charles L., A. Roy and Day. Two are deceased: John E. died at the age of twenty-one years, and Rufus died at the age of twelve years. Mr. Baird has served creditably as township trustee, assessor, member of the Board of Supervisors, and was township clerk ten years. He has been a Republican since 1856. Post-office, Redding.

FRANCIS SMITH ROBINSON, one of Ringgold County's pioneer men, settled on section 7, Union Township, where he now lives, in the spring of 1857; his family consisting of his wife and five children. Mr. Robinson was born in Melbourne, Derbyshire, England, July 30, 1810, and came to the United States with his father and family in 1821, landing at Philadelphia. The following winter they spent in Pittsburg, and in 1822 the family established their residence in Richland County, Ohio. There the father, Francis Robinson, followed agricultural pursuits the rest of his life, dying at his homestead many years

ago. His first wife, Mary Tomlinson, died in England, in 1818. His second wife was Jane Dickens, to whom he was married in Pittsburg, in 1822. Our subject had two brothers—James, died at Philadelphia a few months after landing, and the other, Samuel, died many years later. By his father's second marriage our subject has two half-brothers, William and James S. The latter is Secretary of State in Ohio. The subject of our sketch, up to eighteen years of age, was reared to a farm life, and then spent four years in a cooper's shop. His educational advantages were limited to sixty-six days of schooling, but he availed himself of all means for self-culture. His spare moments were applied to study during the day, often working with an open grammar in sight; his nights were spent in the same indefatigable study. No obstacle could daunt or hinder him in his resolve to become possessed of the power brought only to the cultured. In his twenty-second year he commenced teaching school, and taught twenty-one terms. He married Miss Joanna M. Watson, in Richland County, Ohio, November 21, 1833. This union was a happy one. Nearly one-half a century they trod life's pathway together through hardships of pioneer life, the toil, trials and deprivations necessarily attendant upon making a home in a new country. The enjoyment of hopes realized, and in all things harmony and love, was their every-day life. She died February 21, 1882, in her sixty-ninth year. She had been a member of either the Methodist or United Brethren church from the age of twenty-one years. To Mr. and Mrs. Robinson were born seven children—Anna Sophia, wife of John Clark, died at Santa Cruz, Colorado, and her two children, Wilbur and Maggie, were reared by their grandparents. Melvin, lives at Los Angeles, California; William W., enlisted in the Fourth Iowa, and died from fever and wounds received at the battle of Pea Ridge; Oliva J., wife of H. D. Crawford, lives at Ottumwa; Amelia I., wife of George Bayles, of Seward, Nebraska; Allie Mary, wife of W. H. Critchfield; Amandus, died at Shelby, Ohio, in infancy. Mr. Robinson is a member of the United Brethren church, and the author of the "Triune Theology," a work published in 1881, and is also preparing additional matter for publication under the same title.

AARON RUSH, farmer, section 3, Middle Fork Township, was born in Monroe County, Kentucky, December 8, 1826. His parents were Benjamin and Rachel (Springer) Rush, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of South Carolina. They were married in Kentucky, and reared a family of thirteen children—James, Ezekiel, Martha, William, Dennis, Desire, Hiram, Joshua, Benjamin, John, Aaron, Rachel and Isaac. Aaron was reared on a farm, and obtained his education in the common schools. He was married in September, 1847, to Miss Harmer, born in Monroe County, New York, daughter of John and Sarah (Miller) Harmer. In 1849 he removed to Fayette County, Illinois, where he lived four years, thence to McDonough County, where he resided until the fall of 1865; then came to Ringgold County, locating in Rice Township, where he improved 160 acres of wild land. In 1869 he sold out and purchased his present farm, which had been partially improved. He has 120 acres, consisting largely of rich bottom lands on the west fork of Grand River, and it is one of the best stock farms in the vicinity. He has a good story-and-a-half residence, out-buildings for stock, a good bearing orchard and small fruits. Mr. and Mrs. Rush are the parents of twelve children—James, John,

Martha, Sirastus M., Rosetta, Loretta, Josiah Grant, Ella M., Emma O., Peter, Isaac, Narcissa. The deceased are—Sarah Elizabeth and Thomas Jefferson. Mr. Rush has been a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal church for forty years. Politically he is a Republican and a strong Prohibitionist. Postoffice, Delphos.

JAMES P. PRICE, a leading farmer and stock-raiser of Tingley Township, is a native of England, born in Herefordshire, September 10, 1832, the second of seven children of Thomas and Anna (Pritchard) Price. In 1848 his parents immigrated to America, coming on an English sail vessel, and were thirty-one days making the trip. They landed at New York City, and from there went to Joliet, Will County, Illinois, and made that county their home the rest of their lives. The mother died in November, 1863, and the father in April, 1877. Two of their sons, George and Thomas, were soldiers in the war of the Rebellion, members of the One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and George was killed at the battle of Chickamauga. James P. was reared on a farm, receiving but limited educational advantages, as his father was too poor to pay for his schooling, and when sixteen years old was unable to read. After that age he went to school four winters, and thus learned the rudiments of an education. He remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age, when he went to Wisconsin, and was employed in a saw-mill, and afterward learned the cooper's trade, which he followed until failing health bade him seek out-of-door employment, and accordingly he engaged in farming. In 1871 he returned to Will County, Illinois, and lived on the home farm until after the death of his father, and the following year, 1878, moved to Ringgold County, Iowa, and settled on the farm where he now lives, on section 26, Tingley Township, where he owns 160 acres of choice land, under good cultivation. His farm buildings are comfortable and commodious, and his stock of cattle and hogs are of the best varieties. Mr. Price was married in Wisconsin, July 4, 1863, to Elvira F. Higday, a native of Rock County, daughter of Henry and Polly (Potter) Higday. They have three children—Grant B., Ada M. and Flora M. In politics Mr. Price has always been a Republican, casting his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and his last for James G. Blaine.

WILLIAM S. McANINCH, a prosperous agriculturist of Jefferson Township, living on section 9, was born in Putnam County, Indiana, March 5, 1835, a son of Samuel McAninch, who was a native of Kentucky, and an early settler of Putnam County, settling there in 1829. Our subject was reared on the home farm, and received a common-school education in the rude, log-cabin subscription schools of his native county. He was married February 1, 1859, to Miss Mary M. Johnson, a daughter of Isaac Johnson, of Kirkville, Iowa. To this union have been born nine children, of whom three are deceased. Those living are—Elmina A., Alvin W., Orval H., Ottis G., Arletta M. and James A. Mr. McAninch during the war of the Rebellion, was a member of the Eighteenth Indiana Battery three years, and was in the battles of Stone River and Chickamauga. He was with Sherman to Atlanta, returning with General Thomas and fought at Nashville and Franklin and in other engagements, being under fire 167 days, and traveling over 11,000 miles while in the

service. He was promoted to Sergeant while in the service, and received an honorable discharge. He located in Keokuk County, Iowa, in the fall of 1865, and in the fall of 1870 became a resident of Ringgold County. He settled on his present farm in April, 1883, where he owns 200 acres of well-cultivated land, and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of Poland-China hogs. Mrs. McAninch is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

GEORGE D. FULLERTON, one of the active and enterprising farmers of Tingley Township, residing on section 8, is a native of Indiana, born in Monroe County, near Bloomington, November 5, 1845, a son of John and Mary Fullerton, his father being a native of Tennessee. His mother, whose maiden name was Mary Daugherty, was twice married, marrying for her first husband a man named Roberts. She was a native of Kentucky. The parents were among the early settlers of Indiana. They had a family of seven sons of whom five are yet living, our subject being the fifth child born to them. When he was eight years old his parents moved to Monroe County, Iowa, and settled on a farm near Albia, where they still make their home, the father being now seventy-six years of age, and the mother in her eightieth year. George D. Fullerton was reared to manhood on a farm in Monroe County, Iowa, receiving a common-school education in the schools of the district. He enlisted in the late war, at the age of eighteen years, a member of the Third Iowa Battery. He was in the service about two years, most of the time being on garrison duty, and was mustered out at Davenport, Iowa, in November, 1865. After his discharge he returned to his home in Monroe County, and was engaged in farming with his father for two years. He was then married, in 1867, to Miss Martha E. McGaw of Monroe County, who was born and reared in Coshocton County, Ohio, a daughter of John McGaw. Mrs. Fullerton was left an orphan when quite young, her mother dying when she was four years old, and her father when she was eleven years, after which she lived at the home of her uncle. Mr. and Mrs. Fullerton have five children—Carl C., John, Burt, Inez and Dwight. After his marriage Mr. Fullerton rented a farm on which he lived till 1870, when he came to Ringgold County, locating on his present farm, where he has 160 acres of choice land under good cultivation, and has since been successfully engaged in raising grain and stock. Mr. Fullerton has held the office of trustee of Tingley Township for six years. Both he and his wife are worthy members of the United Presbyterian church, of which he is a trustee. He has also been acting as superintendent of the Sabbath-school.

J. B. FISHER resides on section 1, Clinton Township, and is one of the leading citizens of Ringgold County. He was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, July 15, 1831, son of James and Elizabeth (Brisco) Fisher, natives also of Kentucky. J. B. was the third of a family of seven children. When he was two years old his parents removed to Vermillion County, Indiana, and were among the pioneers of that county. His early life was spent at farm work and in attending the common schools. At the age of twenty-two he was married to Miss Mary Ann Wilkinson, a native of Vermillion County, and daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Tipton) Wilkinson. In 1855 he removed to Marion County, Iowa, where he resided two years, in

proving a piece of wild land. He then removed to Worth County, Missouri, where he improved a farm and resided until 1864, then came to his present farm in Clinton Township, which was then partly improved. Thirty acres were in cultivation and a small house had been built. He has added to the improvements until the Fisher farm is known as one of the best farms in the township. He has 330 acres, a good story-and-a-half house, modern style, surrounded with shade trees, outbuildings for stock, and a fine orchard. A wind-mill furnishes the stock with pure water, and he has every convenience for stock-raising and feeding. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have three children—James R., who resides in Benton Township; Sarah, now Mrs. J. C. Abarr, residing in Nebraska, and George, who resides at home. Mr. Fisher is a member of the Masonic order, Mt. Ayr Lodge, No. 179, and in politics is a Democrat. Postoffice, Redding.

H. SHOWALTER, residing on section 7, Middle Fork Township, has been identified with the interests of Ringgold County over twenty years. He was born in Augusta County, Virginia, April 1, 1843, son of Nimrod and Sarah (Shambaugh) Showalter, natives of the same State. He was the third of a family of ten children. When three years of age his parents removed to Putnam County, Indiana, where he passed his early life assisting on the farm and attending the common schools. In 1863 he removed to Fayette County, Iowa, where he resided three years, then returned to Putnam County for a short time, and the same year came to his present home in Middle Fork Township. He purchased 120 acres of wild land, and has since added to his original purchase until he has a farm of 200 acres of well-cultivated and well-improved land. He has a comfortable, well-furnished house, surrounded with shade trees, an orchard of 200 trees, and a good barn and outbuildings for feeding stock. He was married September 29, 1867, to Miss Mary Jane Shambaugh, daughter of C. D. and Sarah Shambaugh, and they have five children—Sarah Lena, Charles Walter, Cora Pearl, John William, and Avis Maud. Mr. Showalter has served as township trustee and as member of the School Board. He is a worthy and consistent member of the Christian church, and in politics is a Democrat. He is classed among the leading citizens of his township. Postoffice, Redding.

D. FOSTER, proprietor of the Foster House, and also of a harness shop, Caledonia, was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, October 16, 1842, son of James and Anna (Burgess) Foster. He was the second of a family of six children. When two years of age his parents removed to Holmes County, Ohio, where he was reared and educated. At fourteen he commenced work at harness-making, serving an apprenticeship of three years. He then learned ornamental painting, and afterward, boot and shoe-making. February 29, 1864, he enlisted in Company B, Sixtieth Ohio Infantry. His regiment was attached to the Army of the Potomac. In the engagement before Petersburg, August 17, he was wounded and taken prisoner, and was held the greater part of the time at Andersonville. He was paroled November 26, 1864, and held at Parole Camp until honorably discharged May 8, 1865, at Camp Chase, Ohio, then returned to Holmes County. In 1872 he removed to Ringgold County, locating at Caledonia, and engaged in the manufacture of harnesses. He keeps a good assortment, and sells at

reasonable prices. He also manufactures boots and shoes. The Foster House is truly a place where the weary traveler can find food and rest. Mr. Foster is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Lodge 293, Caledonia, and also of the Christian church. He was married February 7, 1864, to Miss Sarah Ellen McLain, and they have five children —Deanna, George William C., Margaret Emma, Etta Elmina, and Orpha Adella. Mrs. Foster died June 5, 1880, and August 1, 1881, Mr. Foster was married to Loretta Small, of Harrison County, Missouri. Their two children are—Florence Edith and Rachel Ellen.

JOHN C. McCLURG, recorder of Ringgold County, Iowa, is a native of Carroll County, Indiana, born November 22, 1840, a son of A. J. and Isabel (Chambers) McClurg, his father a native of Cumberland County, Tennessee, and his mother of Ohio, a daughter of John Chambers. His father was one of the first grand-jurors of Ringgold County, Iowa. The parents moved to Monroe County, Iowa, where the mother died, in the spring of 1855, and the father subsequently moved to Ringgold County and located on a farm in Washington Township, where he died in 1879. The family consisted of four children, John C. being the eldest son. When thirteen years old he was afflicted with bone erysipelas, which destroyed the bone in the upper part of his right arm, leaving about four inches entirely boneless. When seventeen years old he began working on a farm, and followed that vocation until 1882, when he was elected to his present office and moved to Mt. Ayr, assuming the duties of his office January 1, 1883. He was re-elected to the same office in 1884, having proved himself a reliable and efficient public servant. He has served seven years as justice of the peace of Riley Township. October 22, 1864, Mr. McClurg was married to Mary J., eldest daughter of Abraham and Lucinda Johnson. They have a family of seven children—one son and six daughters. Mr. McClurg is a member of Mt. Ayr Lodge, No. 169, I. O. O. F. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JACOB A. SAVILLE, farmer, section 9, Middle Fork Township, was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, January 17, 1841, son of John and Sarah (Shaffer) Saville, natives of Virginia. He was the fifth of a family of nine children, and his early life was spent on the farm and in attending the common schools. When fifteen years of age his parents removed to East Tennessee, Knox County, where he lived until 1864, when he removed to Greene County, Ohio, thence to Cass County, Illinois, thence to Morgan County, same State. He was married October 18, 1866, to Mary E. Henderson. In the fall of 1871 he came to Ringgold County, and resided a few months at Mt. Ayr. In February, 1872, he settled upon a portion of his present farm. His first purchase was forty acres. A rude log cabin had been built and two or three acres had been broken and fenced. He has improved and added to his farm until he now has 120 acres in excellent condition. He has a good one-and-a-half story residence, modern style and well furnished, surrounded with shade trees, native oaks, a good orchard, barn, outbuildings for stock, and everything about the place indicates the thrift of the owner. Mr. and Mrs. Saville are the parents of nine children—Sarah Etta, Joseph H., John S., Jacob, George, Blanchie, Elmer, Belle and Guy. Mr. Saville has been a worthy

member of the Methodist Episcopal church over twenty-two years, and a local preacher of that church for several years. He is an active worker in the cause of religion and temperance. Politically he is a Democrat of an independent order. Postoffice, Ingart.

A. MILLSAP, section 12, Benton Township, is one of the pioneers of Ringgold County. He is a native of Lawrence County, Indiana, born November 10, 1827, son of Bela and Elizabeth (McGuire) Millsap. He was the fourth of six children. His early life was spent on the farm and attending the common schools. In 1853 he removed to McDonough County, Illinois, where he resided two years, and in the spring of 1855 came to Ringgold County, and settled on section 5, Rice Township, where he built a log house. This house is now used by a family for a residence. He remained on this farm four or five years, then removed to Marshalltown, in Rice Township, and resided until 1866. During the Rebellion he went forth in defense of his country, enlisting August 9, 1862, in Company G, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and was in the service three years. He was in the battles of Helena, capture of Little Rock, and was in General Steele's Camden expedition, where the regiment was engaged thirty-seven days in fighting. He was honorably discharged at Davenport in August, 1865, and returned to his home. In 1866 he removed to section 12, upon his father's old homestead, where he resided about eight years. In 1874 he came to his present home, where he has since resided. His farm contains 107 acres and land in a high state of cultivation and well improved. He has a comfortable story-and-a-half residence, [illegible] barn of four apartments—one of the best in the township—a barn and out-buildings for stock, and is engaged in general farming, stock-raising and feeding. He is a Republican and has served as coroner two years, member of the School Board, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church; has served as class-leader and steward about fifteen years. Mr. Millsap was married to Miss Oglesby, a native of Kentucky, and reared in Indiana. They are the parents of eight children—Elizabeth M., Isaac M., Thomas J., Anna A., Mary Ann and William E. (twins), Alexander H. and Hattie B. Ferdinand, Alonzo P. and Willie A. are deceased.

D. W. POORE, farmer, section 23, Clinton Township, is one of Ringgold County's most worthy citizens, and has been identified with its interests for many years. He was born in Washington County, Indiana, October 28, 1846, son of Alvin and Julia (DeWitt) Poore, who were the parents of nine children. In 1850 the family removed to Pike County, Indiana, thence to this county in 1856, locating in Clinton Township. They were among the first settlers of the county. Mr. Poore passed his early life on the farm and was educated in the common schools. In 1866 he removed to Worth County, where he attended school for a time at Grant City. He was married August 15, 1869, to Catharine E. Williams, of Worth County, Missouri, daughter of Harmon and Mary (Brothers) Williams. In 1875 he removed to Harrison County, Missouri, and in 1879 returned to Ringgold County, locating in Clinton Township. In 1882 he engaged in the mercantile business until July 5, 1883, when his storehouse and most of his goods were destroyed by fire. He settled upon his present farm in the fall of 1883. He owns seventy acres of land situated one-half mile south of Redding, and it is well

cultivated and well improved. April 14, 1864, he enlisted in Company A, Forty-sixth Iowa Infantry, and served four months; was honorably discharged and returned to his home. Mr. and Mrs. Poore are the parents of five children—Lillie, Mary Ann, Susan Edith, Roscoe W., and Clark Stanley. Mr. Poore is a member of Post No. 51, G. A. R., Redding, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and steward of the same; is also superintendent of the Sabbath-school. Politically he is a Republican. Postoffice, Redding.

JOHN FOLTS is the pioneer settler of Union Township, and is still living on the same ground on which he first located in April, 1855, where he now has 150 acres of well-improved land under fine cultivation. Mr. Folts is a native of Jefferson County, New York, born near Watertown, June 12, 1814, a son of John and Catharine Folts, who were also born in the State of New York, both now deceased. The father was a soldier in the war of 1812. Our subject was the second of a family of twelve children. Four of the sons and two daughters are still living—John, Josiah, Isaac and Jacob, Margaret and Amy. One son was killed on the anniversary of his birthday, February 22, 1881, by the explosion of a steam boiler at Stockton, California. John Folts, the subject, remained under the home roof till twenty-one years of age, when he went to Ohio, where he remained two or three years. He then lived in Michigan for a time, working on the first railroad built in that State, from Toledo, Ohio, to Adrian, Michigan. Mr. Folts is one of the pioneers of Iowa, coming to this State during the Territorial days. He settled in Van Buren County, Iowa, in 1838, making his home in that county until he became a resident of Ringgold County, and there worked at his trade, that of a millwright, and helped to build several pioneer mills. He was married in Van Buren County, August 13, 1843, to Miss Louisa Lewis, born in Trumbull County, Ohio, February 13, 1818, a daughter of Thomas Lewis. They are the parents of three children—Elvira, Caroline and Martha, wife of Francis M. Waller, of Union Township. Mr. Folts never followed farming till he came to Ringgold County, since which he has made that his principal occupation. He is a man of industrious habits, and is strictly honorable in all his dealings, and these, with his excellent neighborly qualities, have won for him the respect of all who know him. In politics Mr. Folts affiliates with the Greenback party. He became a member of the Odd Fellows order early in life, and has passed through its degrees to the encampment.

CARLTON SNYDER, farmer and stock-raiser, section 5, Jefferson Township, was born February 10, 1841, in Platte County, Missouri, a son of Andrew Snyder, a native of Richland County, Ohio. He came with his parents to Iowa in 1847 and located in Warren County, eight miles south of Des Moines. Our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, and was educated in the common school of Warren County and at the graded school at Winterset, Iowa. He enlisted during the late war in Company H, Thirty-fourth Iowa Infantry and was with the regiment at the battles of Vicksburg or Chickasaw Bayou and Arkansas Post. He was discharged for disability in 1863. He went to Central City, Nebraska, in 1871, remaining there till 1875. He was married March 31, 1874, to Miss Amanda J. Shawver, a daughter of George Shawver, who lives near Maxburg, Madison County, Iowa. Mr. and

Mrs. Snyder have had three children, two still living—George A. and Elbert. They have taken a boy to bring up named Clyde A. Hope. Mr. Snyder located in Madison County, Iowa, in 1875, and in 1879 came to Ringgold County, when he settled on his present farm, which contains 120 acres of choice land. Since coming to Jefferson Township Mr. Snyder has served as trustee and school director. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

GENERAL S. MOORE was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, April 10, 1830. His father, Riley Moore, was a native of Virginia, of Irish parentage, and died in 1847, while in the service during the Mexican war. His grandfather, Riley Moore, was a soldier of the Revolution, and died in 1844, aged 101 years. His mother, Mary Ann (Dyer) Moore, was a native of Virginia. His parents had a family of eight children—Isaac W., Owen, Elizabeth, Andrew Jackson, General S., Sarah, John and Nancy. Mr. Moore resided in his native county until twelve years of age, then came to Moultrie County, Illinois, thence to Champaign County, where he lived about fifteen years. He was reared on a farm, and received his education in the common schools and at home. He was married April 17, 1851, to Miss Elizabeth Johnson, a native of Indiana, daughter of James and Juriah Johnson. In September, 1855, Mr. Moore, with wife and one child, came to Iowa, locating in Monroe County, until April, 1856, when he came to Ringgold County, and settled in Lott's Creek Township, on section 5. He improved the land and resided upon it until August, 1862. August 10, 1862, he enlisted in Company G, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry. While in the service he received a wound which fractured a knee joint, an injury from which he has never recovered. He was honorably discharged May 31, 1865, at Memphis, Tennessee, and returned to his home. A short time after his return he engaged in the mercantile trade at Caledonia, starting with a capital of $450, which he conducted in such a successful manner that in a few years the annual sales of the establishment were over $20,000. In 1867 he was appointed postmaster and served until 1882, when he resigned. In 1884 he closed out his business. He was elected county supervisor and took his seat January 1, 1882. He was one of the board that purchased the poor farm and erected the court-house. He has served in several township offices. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and one of its most liberal supporters. Mr. and Mrs. Moore are the parents of six children—Mary Helen, Brewer, Owen F., Isaac W., Florence and Cordelia. James H. and Frederick A. are deceased. Mr. Moore has a valuable residence in town, a one-and-a-half-story building, surrounded with shade and ornamental trees, and well furnished. He owns 144 acres of land adjoining the town, and twenty-seven town lots. He has given his children a good education, and they are well fitted to take part in the active duties of life. He commenced life without means; but by industry and good management he has acquired a fine property. Politically he is a Republican.

J. C. BULLARD, farmer, section 15, Monroe Township, was born in Upper Canada, October 26, 1842. His parents, Reuben and Caroline M. (Marvin) Bullard, reared a family of ten children, J. C. being the fifth child. When seven years of age his parents removed to Knox County, Illinois. He was reared on a farm and his education was obtained in the common

schools. In 1850 the family came to Decatur County, locating in Center Township, near Leon. Here Mr. Bullard resided two years, then returned to Knox County, Illinois. August 9, 1862, he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Second Illinois Infantry, and participated in all the battles of his regiment, from Resaca to Atlanta; attended the grand review at Washington, and was honorably discharged in June, 1865, at Camp Fry, in Chicago, Illinois. He was married November 9, 1865, to Hannah Jennette Daniels, of Knox County, daughter of Alexander Daniels. He then returned to Decatur County, where he resided about five years, then removed to Henry County for two years, thence to Decatur County again, where he lived until 1882, and finally came to his present home in Monroe Township. His farm contains 140 acres of well-cultivated and well-improved land. He has a comfortable house-shade trees, an orchard, out-buildings for stock, and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. Mrs. Bullard died September 29, 1877, leaving four children—James Reuben, John C., Enos Cordell and Royal Harley. October 16, 1878, Mr. Bullard was married to Miss Sarah Ellen Butts, of Leon, daughter of John Butts. They have four children—Minnie Caroline, Frankie, Lizzie May and Elnora. Mr. Bullard is a member of Decatur City Lodge, No. 102, I. O. O. F., and is a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Post-office, Kellerton.

WILLIAM HORN, M. D., is the oldest practicing physician in Ringgold County. He is a native of the State of Indiana, born in Switzerland County, in December, 1843. His father, W. S. Horn, was a native of Dumfriesshire, Scotland, born in 1817, and came to America in 1833. His mother, Mary (Gray) Horn, was also a native of Switzerland County, Indiana, her parents being natives of Scotland, but early settlers of Indiana. When he was five years of age the parents of our subject moved to Delavan County, Illinois, and there he was reared and educated. When nineteen years of age he began the study of medicine, with Dr. G. W. Slack, of Yorktown, Indiana, and subsequently entered the Chicago, Illinois, Medical College, from which he graduated in 1865. After his graduation he located in Monmouth, Illinois, and in February, 1869, came to and located in Mt. Ayr, where he now has a large and lucrative practice. He stands at the head of his profession in the county, where he has lived nearly a score of years. He is a close student, being deeply interested in anything that pertains to his profession. He is a member of the Southwestern Medical Association and the Decatur County Medical Society. He was married December 14, 1869, to Miss Mary Law, of Warren County, Illinois. They have two children—Minnie and James Otto.

WALAY McDONALD, retired farmer, was born in Madison County, Ohio, May 16, 1823. His father, James C. McDonald, was a son of Thomas McDonald, a native of Scotland, and was born in Botetourt County, Virginia. He married in Tennessee, Mary Ann Melvin, also a native of Virginia, and they removed to Kentucky. About the year 1806 they removed to Ross County, Ohio, and three or four years later to Madison County. They had a large family of children, seven of whom lived to be grown—Mary, born in 1801; George, born in 1803; Phebe, born in 1805; Elizabeth, born in 1808; Charity,

born in 1811; John, born in 1814; and Malay, the subject of this sketch. Mr. McDonald's early life was spent in assisting his father on the farm and in obtaining his education at the subscription schools. He was married March 9, 1843, to Miss Mary Ferguson, born in Franklin County, Ohio, November 13, 1824, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Biggert) Ferguson. He resided in Madison until 1850, when, with wife and three children he started for Iowa. The first winter he spent in Muscatine, and the following spring moved on a farm five miles west of the city, where he resided four years. May 22, 1855, he arrived in Bloomington Township, Decatur County, and bought a claim of Matthew McClain, paying $200 for the pre-emption. The land is described as follows: South half section 29, southwest section 28, south half northwest 28, west half southeast, south half northeast 28, township 60, range 27 west. There were living in Bloomington Township at that time about seven families: Mr. McClain, John Mercer, Aaron Myers, F. M. Scott, Widow Scott's family, W. M. McDonald, John Wion and J. K. Tapscot. Mr. McDonald commenced immediately to make permanent improvements. The first house was a log cabin, 16 x 16 feet, with sod chimney, that had been erected by Mr. McClain. He improved from time to time until the McDonald farm was known as one of the best improved farms in Decatur County. At one time he owned 1,620 acres. His house was built in 1866 and was sided with black walnut; it was one of the best buildings in the township. He was extensively engaged in stock-raising, feeding and dealing in stock. He resided on the old homestead in Bloomington Township until October 29, 1855, when he removed to Kellerton where he has 158 acres of improved land adjoining the town plat. He has a nice residence, built in modern style and well furnished. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald have had four children—Margaret Ann, of Tuskeega; George, deceased; E. W., of Tuskeega, and an infant not named. Mr. McDonald has served one term as county supervisor under the old law, and three terms as township trustee and assessor. He is a member of the Odd Fellows order of Decatur City, and politically is an independent Republican. He started in life without means, but by industry and good management has acquired a fine property. Among the enterprising and successful pioneers of Decatur County, none is better known or more highly esteemed than is Mr. McDonald, and he is classed among the leading citizens of Ringgold County.

ELI LANDRETH, an enterprising and successful agriculturist, of Liberty Township, is a native of Indiana, born in Owen County, March 5, 1837. His parents, Zachariah and Elmo (Fender) Landreth, were natives of Kentucky and North Carolina respectively, and were among the early settlers of Indiana. They lived in Owen County till 1852, when they removed with their family to Mercer County, Illinois, where both died. They were the parents of ten children—six sons and four daughters, of whom seven still survive. Two of their sons died in the late war. Eli Landreth, the subject of this sketch, was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools, principally in Mercer County, Illinois, to which county he removed with his parents when fourteen years old. He was married in 1859 to Miss Mary E. Phillips, a native of Michigan, but at the time of her marriage living in Mercer County, Illinois. To this union were born ten children: Fannie, Jennie, Clisby, Dora, Henry, Frank, Finn, Thomas and

two who died in infancy. After his marriage Mr. Landreth settled on a farm in Mercer County, where he resided till the fall of 1874. He then came to Ringgold County, Iowa, and settled on his farm on sections 2 and 11, Liberty Township, where he has since followed farming and stock-raising, his cattle being of a high grade. He devotes some attention to raising fine horses, and in February, 1886, he sold a number of good animals. His farm, which is well-improved and under good cultivation, contains 360 acres, and his residence and farm buildings are noticeably good. Politically Mr. Landreth formerly affiliated with the Republican party, but is now a Greenbacker. He has served his township as trustee for nine years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Landreth have been members of the Baptist church for many years.

GENERAL HISTORY

INTRODUCTORY.

THE fact that Iowa is situated near the geographical center of the United States, between the two great rivers of the continent, and on the line of the great trans-continental railways, presages for her a future in the development of her resources which it does not require the provision of a prophet to see, and will at no distant day place her in an eminent position among the States of our Union, which nature, assisted by the energy, thrift and enterprise of her citizens has so abundantly fitted her to occupy.

When we call to mind the fact that the present greatness of Iowa is all the growth of little more than fifty years, we may well anticipate the grandeur that awaits her in the future, now that she is provided with all the means necessary for the more rapid development of her inexhaustible resources. In her healthful climate, productive soil, railroad and water-transportation facilities, and her intelligent, enterprising people, we have the best guaranty that her future progress will be unprecedented.

The pioneer work has been done in most parts of the State, and railroads, public buildings, churches, school-houses, etc., are provided, so that the citizens of Iowa now enjoy all the comforts, conveniences and advantages obtained in the older States, and Iowa offers to-day proportionally greater inducements to capital, enterprise and labor. Incalculable wealth lies hidden in the inexhaustible coal mines, furnishing motive-power, and the unused water-power forming natural mill-sites, in almost every county in the State for manufacturing industries. Iowa, for agricultural and manufacturing resources, has no superior among all the States, while her channels of trade radiate in all directions.

Next to the fertility of its soil, its excellent climate, and the energy of its industrial classes the prosperity of the State is due to wise legislation, by which its financial credit has been maintained, internal improvements encouraged, public instruction rapidly advanced, and immigration and capital attracted. Thirty-eight years have elapsed since Iowa was admitted as a State, and during that time wonderful changes have taken place. Then savage beasts and savage men contended for the supremacy in this fair domain, but both have retreated before the white man, and to-day civiliza-

tion has left its mark in numberless school-houses and churches, and in the prosperity and happiness which everywhere abound. Of Iowa, whose name is a synonym for prosperity, and her high rank in the sisterhood of States in respect of moral and material greatness, it is unnecessary to speak at length. Aside from the experiences of the civil war, in which the State furnished her full quota of men—and no braver men were sent to the front—the history of Iowa is that of one uninterrupted march of progress in the paths of peace, and she has risen from the condition of a Territory to one of the principal States of the Republic, in population, wealth and moral greatness. With these elements of empire inherent in it, it is not surprising that Iowa is making strides which must soon place her where she will be recognized as one of the foremost in manufacturing and other industrial pursuits, as well as in agriculture.

In order of admission into the Union, Iowa stands twenty-ninth; in number of square miles she is fifteenth; in population tenth, while in acres of tillable land her place is first. She is the third State in the amount of corn raised, while she is second in number of hogs raised, third in cattle, fifth in wheat, sixth in oats, fifth in barley, fifth in flax, seventh in hay, third in milch cows, fifth in number of hogs packed, fifth in value of farm implements, sixth in value of farm products, fourth in extent of coal area, and fifth in number of banks and newspapers. In religious, educational, charitable and benevolent institutions Iowa stands among the foremost. In regard to healthfulness her rank is fourth, while in point of the intelligence of her people she is first, having a less percentage of illiteracy than any other State. Twenty-one States have more persons in prison, and thirty-two States more female prisoners than Iowa. In the number of post-offices she is seventh, and in the amount of postal receipts sixth, being one of the eight Northern States which contribute two-thirds of the entire national revenue.

BOUNDARIES AND DIVISIONS.

This empire is composed of ninety-nine subdivisions, or little republics, called counties, of which Ringgold is one. It is bounded on the north by Union County, on the east by Decatur County, on the south by the State of Missouri, and on the west by Wayne County. It contains about fifteen congressional townships, or, to be exact, twelve whole and four fractional townships. These are numbered from 67 to 70 north, in ranges 28 to 31 west. The area of the county is a little over 540 square miles. For organic purposes the county is divided into seventeen townships.

TOPOGRAPHY.

The county is well supplied with living water in every part, and admirably drained by the Platte and the several forks of Grand River and their numerous affluents. The general trend of the streams is southward, and they flow to the Missouri River. Water is also readily obtained on the uplands by digging. The principal streams acquire considerable volume before they leave the county, and afford good mill-sites and sufficient water power for the uses of the county. The valleys are interesting from the fact that they are the deepest and largest purely drift valleys in Iowa. They are eroded by the action of the water from a depth of 150 feet to more than 200 feet, and yet, except at one or two points, no rock is to be seen in their valley sides, which are drift material from top to bottom. From these and other indications the drift is estimated to reach a depth of about 200 feet. This is the deepest portion of the drift deposit in the State. The highest

ridge of land in Southern Iowa, a branch of the great watershed that separates from it in Adair County, passes down into Missouri through this county. The highest point, which is in the northwestern part of the county, is 1,152 feet higher than Keokuk, and that city is 444 feet above the level of the sea. Although this county is upon the Missouri slope, the bluff deposit of Western Iowa does not extend so far eastward.

There is considerable timber in the valleys of the streams; elsewhere the surface of the county is almost all prairie, and its general aspect is peculiar and interesting. A stranger passing through the county by the ordinary routes of travel is quite unconscious of the presence within the range of his vision of the deep valleys with their wooded banks, for the general surface upon which his eye rests is apparently all an undulating prairie. Upon approaching the streams he sees them winding through rather narrow valleys, their banks lined with a border of trees, but after crossing them they are soon lost to view again among the general undulations of the surface, and not even the tops of the tallest trees appear in sight.

Only two exposures of rock are found in the county. One of them is in a deep valley in the extreme northeast corner of the county, and the other is near its southern boundary, consisting in each case of a few layers of limestone belonging to the upper coal measures. It makes a good quality of quick-lime, and some of it is suitable for building purposes. Good materials for the manufacture of brick are found in various places.

COAL.

Coal is supposed to exist throughout the county, but no mines are yet in operation. The only attempt to find the desirable mineral was in 1884, when Francis Ellis, C. B. Morse, H. A. White and J. C. Askren sunk a shaft two and a half miles east of the station at Mt. Ayr. They bored through sixty feet of solid rock, and in all went 326 feet below the surface, finding a little coal, but not in paying quantities. This experiment cost its promoters $1,200.

EARLY HISTORY.

THE continuous history of Iowa as the abode of white men begins with May 1, 1833. Previous to that date every acre was in the legal possession of the Indians. As a result of the Black Hawk war of 1832, a strip of land facing the Mississippi, and about fifty miles deep was opened to settlement after April 30, 1833. It was not long, of course, before the adventurous pioneers began to encroach upon the domain reserved to the Red Men, and many an isolated cabin was built in the interior in violation of the laws. These were frequently removed by the use of the military. In 1836 a treaty was made, ceding another large tract for the uses of civilization, but the rights of the Indians to the lands reserved to them were very strictly guarded, no white person being allowed to settle on Indian lands. By the treaty of 1842 the whites were again prohibited from settling on the lands purchased in that year, until May 1, 1843, or even to carry an ax into the Indian country. It was by the terms of this last treaty that the land embraced in Ringgold County was opened to settlement.

THE BOUNDARY DISPUTE.

The southern part of what is now Ringgold County was involved in the famous dispute between Iowa and Missouri, which began in the autumn of 1839 and was settled ten years later. In the meantime the general supposition was that the strip belonged to Missouri, or would be so decided.

Joint Resolution No. 7 passed in February, 1844, recites that in the autumn and winter of 1839 an unjust claim was made by the Governor of Missouri to a portion of territory lying within the limits of Iowa; that the marshal of Iowa, acting by National as well as by Territorial authority, had called for an armed posse to preserve peace and to resist the encroachment of Missouri authority within the well-known limits of Iowa; that several hundred patriotic citizens had obeyed the marshal's summons late in 1839, marching in an inclement season; that an account of the expenses had been taken by a United States official, but had not then been liquidated. These things having been recited, Hon. A. C. Dodge, then Territorial delegate in

Congress, was called upon, not only to secure pay for the volunteers, but for the marshal's services as well, "in preserving the peace and protecting the southern boundary of Iowa."

Chapter 23, Laws of 1846, approved January 17, recites the fact of the arrest of the sheriff of Davis County by the authorities of Missouri, and the probability of litigation arising from the dispute between Iowa and Missouri. The Governor was, accordingly, authorized to draw upon the Territorial treasurer for $1,500 to defray counsel fees in cases where either the Territory or its citizens might be a party against Missouri.

Chapter 3, Laws of the First General Assembly, approved January 16, 1847, authorizes the Governor to agree with the State of Missouri for the commencement and speedy termination of a suit in the Supreme Court of the United States to determine the true location of the boundary line between the two States. The sum of $1,000 was appropriated to defray the expenses of the same.

This dispute arose in consequence of two surveys having been made of the northern boundary of Missouri, the first begun at the head of the rapids in the river Des Moines, and the second at the foot of the Des Moines rapids, in the Mississippi. The difference between the initial points was nearly nine miles. Missouri having elected to assume the northern line as her boundary, and Iowa, the southern line as hers, there was, of course, a conflict of jurisdiction over a strip of country nearly nine miles in width, it being claimed by both States. The vexed question was settled in Iowa's favor, in 1850, when the boundary was established by commissioners, who had the line carefully surveyed. Posts were erected a mile apart, every tenth post being of iron. This increased Ringgold County's area by one-fourth.

FIRST SETTLEMENT.

Charles H. Schooler and family, the first residents of Ringgold County, settled in the southeastern part in 1844. For two years his was the only white family in the vicinity. In 1847 Manoah B. Schooler was born, the first white child born in the county. In 1846 James M. Tethrow settled near Mr. Schooler, but for several years thereafter there appears to have been no further immigration. These two families thought they were living in Missouri, until the survey of 1850 made them citizens of Iowa.

In the spring of 1854 the population of the county was increased to nine families, and the following autumn and spring of 1855 saw a brisk immigration, four or five settlements or neighborhoods being formed, in as many different portions of the county. The names of these are mostly given further on, in the account of the organic election of the county. In the biographical department of this volume are given such personal histories of many of the pioneers as can be obtained.

CIVIL HISTORY.

The territory in Ringgold County was technically a part of Des Moines County from 1834 to 1836, under the Territorial Government of Wisconsin. Then the Territory of Iowa was organized, and for some years this region remained undesignated, unsurveyed, and unsettled. In 1847 the boundaries of the county were established, and the name Ringgold given, in honor of Major Samuel Ringgold, who was mortally wounded in the battle of Palo Alto, fought a little more than a year before, in the Mexican war. For the next four years Ringgold was included within the temporary county of Pottawatomie. Then it was attached to the newly-organized county of Decatur.

By an act of the General Assembly, approved February 4, 1851, John W. Ellis and Reason Wilkinson, of the county of Davis, and H. B. Notson, of the county of Decatur, were appointed commissioners to locate and establish the county seat, for which purpose they were to meet at the house of H. B. Notson. On the 26th of June of the same year, they reported to the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County—as they were required to do by law—that they had selected a place for the county seat of Ringgold County, and had designated the location by setting a stake about four miles south of the center of said county, and that they had named said county seat Urbana. They further reported that they could not give a more particular description of the place for the reason that the land had not yet been surveyed into sections. Probably at this day nobody knows the exact location of Urbana. This first attempt to organize the county was not a success, for the reason that it did not contain a sufficient population.

On the 16th of October, 1852, the county judge of Taylor County, ordered that Ringgold County be a separate election precinct, to be called Schooler Township, and that the place of voting at the presidential election be at the house of Lot Hobbs. This was in the southern part of the county, where there is now a creek that bears the name of Lott's Creek, which derived its name from this early settler. Charles H. Schooler, Abner Smith and Jesse Harper were appointed to act as judges of this election. Charles H. Schooler was elected justice of the peace, and Lot Hobbs constable of Schooler Township. The latter was also appointed supervisor of roads, and one Littleton Allen, a commissioner to locate a road from the State line, in a northeast direction across the county.

LOCATION OF COUNTY SEAT.

January 5, 1855, another legislative act was approved, appointing commissioners to locate the county seat of Ringgold County. They were George W. Jones, Robert W. Stafford and George A. Hawley. Joel Chambers was then acting as justice of the peace in "Schooler Township" (Ringgold County), and the commissioners were sworn by him. Their obligation is in the following words, and is the oldest record in the court-house at Mt. Ayr:

State of Iowa, }
Ringgold County. } s. s.

Personally appeared before me, an acting justice of the peace within and for the county and State aforesaid, George W. Jones, Robert W. Stafford and George A. Hawley, commissioners appointed by the act of the Legislature of the State of Iowa, approved January 5, 1855, to locate the county seat of Ringgold County, Iowa; who upon oath depose and say that they will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties assigned, to the best of their ability and judgment.

GEORGE W. JONES,
R. W. STAFFORD,
GEORGE A. HAWLEY.

Sworn to and subscribed this 16th day of April, 1855.

JOEL CHAMBERS, *Justice of the Peace.*

The report of these commissioners was made to the county judge of Decatur County, on the 18th of April, in the following terms:

"We, the undersigned commissioners appointed by act of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, approved January 5, 1855, to locate and name the seat of justice of Ringgold County, and report to the county judge of Decatur County in case there should be no county judge in said

county of Ringgold, respectfully submit to you the following report, to wit: That we have examined the different portions of said county of Ringgold, after having been duly qualified, and have made selection of the southwest quarter of section 6, township 68 north, range 29 west, for the seat of justice of said county of Ringgold, and given it the name of Mt. Ayr, and the said Mt. Ayr is by the authority vested in us hereby declared to be the seat of justice of said county of Ringgold."

John S. Sheller, of Lucas County, was the owner of the land on which the county seat was to be located, and as an inducement to the commissioners he executed a bond to convey to the county the east half of the quarter section chosen, so that he and the county would each own half of the town lots. The bond was as follows:

"Know all men that I, John S. Sheller, of the county of Lucas, in the State of Iowa, am held and firmly bound in the penal sum of $2,000, to the county of Ringgold, in the State of Iowa, to make, or cause to be made, a good and sufficient deed, with general warranty, to said county to the east half of the southwest quarter of section 6, in township 68 north, range 29 west. Now the condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the commissioners appointed to locate the county seat of Ringgold County, Iowa, have located the same upon the land of said Sheller, to wit: Upon the southwest quarter of section 6, in township 68 north, range 29 west, he, the said Sheller, hereby obligating himself in the consideration of the said location, to convey to the said county the aforesaid premises upon the condition that the said county seat shall be laid off into lots, streets and alleys, that the said line shall constitute the center of the town in connection with the west half of said quarter section, making the public square one half on either side. Said deed to be executed and delivered on or before the 1st day of May next, in witness whereof I hereunto sign my name, this, 18th day of April, A. D. 1855.

"JOHN S. SHELLER."

Mr. Sheller also agreed to have the surveying done at his own expense, and gave a bond of $100 for that purpose. On the 9th of June Mr. Sheller delivered to the county the following deed, the first made and recorded in Ringgold County:

"For and in consideration of the location of the county seat of Ringgold County, upon the southwest quarter of section 6, in township No. 68 north, of range No. 29 west, we hereby convey to the county of Ringgold, State of Iowa, the east half of the southwest fractional quarter of section No. 6, in township No. 68 north, of range No. 29 west, and warrant the title against all persons whomsoever. Witness our hands, this 9th day of June, A. D. 1855.

"EDWARD A. TEMPLE,
"JANE E. TEMPLE."

This was attested in the usual form by the clerk of the District Court of Lucas County. William McCormick was employed to survey the town, according to plans furnished by Sheller and Judge Hagans. The survey was made in the latter part of June.

ORGANIZATION OF COUNTY.

Before this, however, May 14, 1855, Ringgold County had been formally organized. William N. McEfee was appointed organizing sheriff, and given instructions as to the proper mode of procedure.

Mr. McEfee was required to take the following oath before assuming the duties of his office:

"I, William N. McEfee, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the State of Iowa, and faithfully and impartially demean myself in office as organizing sheriff of Ring-

gold County to the best of my ability. So help me God.

"Subscribed and sworn to before me, a justice of the peace of said county, May 14, 1855.

"JOEL CHAMBERS."

David Enyart, L. S. Terwilliger and William Lovewell were chosen judges of the election, and subscribed to the following obligation:

"We, L. S. Terwilliger, David Enyart, and William Lovewell, do solemnly swear that we will impartially, and to the best of our knowledge and ability perform the duties of judges of this election, and will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud, deceit and abuse in conducting the same.

"Subscribed and sworn to before me on this, 14th day of May, 1855.

"WILLIAM N. MCEFEE,
"*Organizing Sheriff of Ringgold County, Iowa.*

Joseph W. Cofer and Andrew S. McBride were appointed clerks, and took a similar obligation, in these words:

"We, Joseph W. Cofer and Andrew S. McBride, do solemnly swear that we will impartially, and to the best of our ability and knowledge perform the duties of clerks of this election, and will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud and abuse in conducting the same.

"Subscribed and sworn to before me on this, the 14th day of May, 1855.

"WILLIAM N. MCEFEE,
"*Organizing Sheriff of Ringgold County, Iowa.*"

Thirty-four citizens voted at this organic election, and their names are worthy of record in this place. They were:

William Barber, Hiron Imus, Reuben Morris, John A. Lesan, Nathaniel Curtis, Alexander S. Wiley, Stewart Barber, Joseph A. Stratton, Joel Chambers, Jacob Case, Thomas Lovewell, James Tethrow, Thomas Hughes, C. H. Schooler, Matthew B. Brown, John Summers, Henry Rowlan, Wendell Poor, Ephraim Cofer, Solomon Lovewell, E. L. Sales, Henry Snyder, E. Imus, John Tyler, William Shoemaker, Peter Doze, James C. Hagans, Joseph W. Cofer, Henry Boston, Henry Miller, William Lovewell, David Enyart, L. S. Terwilliger and A. S. McBride.

The result of this election was: James C. Hagans, County Judge; Matthew B. Brown, District Clerk; Joseph W. Cofer, Treasurer and Recorder; Hiron Imus, Sheriff; Charles H. Schooler, School Fund Commissioner. At the first regular election, in August following, ninety-one votes were polled. Judge Hagans and Mr. Cofer were re-elected; Peter Doze was chosen Sheriff, and Wendell Poor, School Fund Commissioner. Thus the county governmental machinery was set running in its entirety.

SETTLEMENT WITH TAYLOR COUNTY.

It will be remembered that up to this time, since 1852, Ringgold County had formed a township of Taylor County. On the 29th of June, 1855, the judges of the two counties met and made a settlement of financial accounts. There was in the hands of the Taylor County judge, $19.96, which had been collected by Charles H. Schooler for the following purposes: County tax, $5.00; State tax, $3.26; school tax, $6.35; bridge tax, $5.35; total, $19.96.

The warrants outstanding on account of Ringgold County at this time were as follows: D. B. Wilson, $8.16; James M. Tethrow, $1.02; William Barber, $1.37; Joel Chambers, $2.96; James M. Tethrow, $5.00; total, $18.51.

The net capital with which Ringgold County began business was therefore, $1.45.

FIRST TERM OF COUNTY COURT.

The first formal meeting of the county officers was held at the house of Ephraim

Cofer, about six miles south of Mt. Ayr, July 2, 1855. There were present James C. Hagans, County Judge; Matthew R. Brown, County Clerk; Hiron Imus, Sheriff; and Joseph W. Cofer, Treasurer.

The first business taken up was to extend the time of Peter Doze, Assessor, to enable him to complete his work. He was given until July 16.

Levi S. Terwilliger was appointed a justice of the peace in and for the civil township of Ringgold County, Iowa, until the first Monday in August next, and until his successor is chosen and qualified.

The county was then divided into quarters by the range line between 29 and 30, and the township line between 68 and 69. Each of these quarters, comprising four townships, formed an election precinct, or township. The northeast precinct was numbered 1, and named Sand Creek. The house of Stanbury Wright was designated as the place of holding elections, and Stanbury Wright, Levi S. Terwilliger and Spencer Dady were appointed judges of elections.

The northwest precinct was numbered 2, and named Platt. The house of Garrett Bird was designated as the place of holding elections, and Garrett Bird, Norval Bridges and Rowland Andrews "be and they are hereby appointed judges of elections."

The southwest precinct was numbered 3, and named West Fork. John McGaughey's house was named as the place of holding elections, and John McGaughey, Joel Chambers and William Lovewell were chosen judges of elections.

The southeast precinct was numbered 4, and named Lott's Creek. Joseph Strickland's house was selected as the place of of elections, and Joseph Strickland, William J. Merritt and Ephraim Cofer were named as judges.

Charles H. Schooler resigned as school fund commissioner. Harvey Waugh was appointed in his place, but failed to qualify.

The next entry on the judge's record is really funny:

"It appears that the judge has received as fees, $1.75, and the clerk has received, 25 cents, and the recorder has received, $7.60, total, $9.60.

"The dividend being struck, each officer's share is $3.20."

What would the officers of the county think to-day of adding together the fees of all the officers and then dividing the same, share and share alike?

A regular election for county and township officers was ordered held the first Monday in August, and the election returns were directed to be taken to the house of Ephraim Cofer, to meet again at which place the court adjourned.

SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS.

July 13 the report of Peter Doze, Assessor, was received and he was allowed $45 for assessing, being employed thirty days.

August 7 it is recorded that no appeals were made from the assessment. Each of the four precincts was declared a road district, and entitled to a supervisor.

August 8 the only business transacted, besides appointing Wendell Poor school fund commissioner, was fixing the bonds of various officers as follows: Justices, $1,000; constables, $500; treasurer and sheriff, $5,000 each.

September 4 the fees were again pooled. The judge contributed $8.75; the clerk, $1.00; and the recorder, $7.00; total, $16.75. Each officer was awarded $5.58, which, added to his former dividend, made $8.78. The record adds, "leaving a balance due each office from the county for the quarter's service, ending August 8, 1855, of $3.56.

October 1 the tax levy was fixed as fol-

lows: County purposes, four mills on the dollar; State purposes, one and one-fourth mills on the dollar; school purposes, one-half mill on the dollar; road purposes, one-half mill on the dollar; road poll tax, $1.00; poll tax, 50 cents.

On petition of Mary Imus George W. Lesan was appointed guardian of the minor children, Daniel, Clark, Seth, Andrew, Luke, Sarah, Leonard O., Lewis B. and Luther N., of Horatio M. Imus, deceased.

On the following day a settlement was made with Charles H. Schooler, collector, appointed by Judge Low, of Taylor County, to collect taxes of Ringgold County for 1853 and 1854. He was charged with $104.46, and credited with $80.46, leaving $24 cash on hand. This term of court was the first held at Mt. Ayr.

November 5, appears the following entry: "The first business taken up was the disposition of certain property in the hands of Peter Doze, belonging to the Indians, to wit: Three guns and sixteen steel traps. It is therefore ordered that the sheriff, Peter Doze, after giving legal notice thereof, make sale of said property for cash or county orders, and pay the proceeds into the county treasury, to be applied on the payment of county expenses for removing said Indians from said county in the year 1855. Which said sale is to be on the first Monday in December, 1885, at Mt. Ayr."

November 6, the first marriage license was issued from the County Court, to James O. Lockwood and Lucy A. Goer.

The estate of Horatio M. Imus was inventoried at $2,471.91.

December 24, the second marriage license was issued, to Josiah Turner and Eliza Ann Scott. The ceremony itself was performed by Judge Hagans, on the same day.

February 27, 1856, a license was issued to William Cavin and Mary Imus.

March 4, 1856, Township No. 5 was created in the center of the county and named Mt. Ayr. It comprised sections 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, township 68 north, range 30 west; sections 36, 35, 34, 25, 26, 27, 22, 23 and 24, in township 69 north, range 30 west; sections 31, 32, 33, 28, 29, 30, 19, 20 and 21, township 69 north, range 29 west; and sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17 and 18, in township 68 north, range 29 west.

CIVIL TOWNSHIP.

At different times within the next three years Middle Fork, Washington, East Fork and Jefferson townships were organized, so that there were nine townships when the government of the county passed under the control of the Board of Supervisors. In 1869 a re-arrangement was made, and each civil township made to comprise exactly one congressional township. This is the present and permanent division, except that Mt. Ayr Township (making seventeen in all) is carved out of Poe and Rice. It is two square miles in extent. It is coincident with the corporation of Mt. Ayr. The townships are named as follows: Union, 70 north, 28 west; Tingley, 70 north, 29 west; Jefferson, 70 north, 30 west; Lincoln, 70 north, 31 west; Grant, 69 north, 31 west; Washington, 69 north, 30 west; Liberty, 69 north, 29 west; Monroe, 69 north, 28 west; Athens, 68 north, 28 west; Poe, 68 north, 29 west, except section 6 and the northwest quarter of section 7; Rice, 68 north, 30 west, except the east half of section 1 and the northeast quarter of section 12; Benton, 68 north, 31 west; Clinton, 67 north, 31 west; Middle Fork, 67 north, 30 west; Lott's Creek, 67 north, 29 west; Riley, 67 north, 28 west; Mt. Ayr, section 6 and the northwest quarter of section 7, township 68 north, range 29 west, and the east half of section 1 and the northeast quarter of section 12, township 68 north, range 30 west.

As to the naming of the several townships: Monroe, Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Grant were named for the Presidents; Benton for the illustrious Senator, Thomas H. Benton, of Missouri; Clinton, from Clinton Addington, an early settler; Rice, from Captain Rice, of the Fourth Infantry, and one of Ringgold County's gallant volunteer soldiers; Middle Fork, from the creek of that name; Tingley, from the postoffice of that name (the postoffice was named for a person); Liberty and Union were common names for townships formed during and soon after the war; Poe was named for Edgar Allen Poe, the poet; Lott's Creek was named for the creek, and that derived its name from an early settler; Athens was named in admiration of the ancient seat of learning, the capital of Greece; and Riley was named for L. D. Riley, a member of the Board of Supervisors.

SLAVES IN RINGGOLD COUNTY.

One authentic instance is known of slavery in this county. L. P. Allen, a native of Buncombe County, North Carolina, came to this county in the spring of 1852, and settled in what is now Middle Fork Township. He possessed at that time and for six months after two young negroes—a boy and a girl, aged about fourteen and sixteen respectively. In the autumn he sold them to a man from near St. Joseph, Missouri, for $1,100. William Fletchall, now of Worth County, Missouri, was a witness of this sale, and saw $600 of the money paid. Allen lived in Ringgold Connty thirteen years, removed to Jackson County, Missouri, became insane, and afterward died in an asylum.

A TRAGEDY OF EARLY DAYS.

In the spring of 1855, two men, by name Driggs and Hale, settled with their wives in Ringgold County, just south of the Union County line; they were young men of pleasant address, and seemed to be greatly attached to each other, a circumstance readily accounted for by the fact that they were brothers-in-law. Apparently they, like the other settlers of the county, were here to make homes for themselves and their families, and nothing peculiar or strange about either them or their wives attracted the attention of the neighbors.

One morning in the autumn of the same year the two men started out to hunt deer and turkeys, which at that time were very numerous in the woodlands along Grand River. About noon, Hale, apparently panic stricken, rushed into the cabin of one of the neighboring settlers, and with great trepidation communicated the fact that his companion was dead, killed by the treacherous Indians, and that he had barely escaped with his life.

The excitement was intense, messengers being at once dispatched, notifying the neighborhood for thirty miles around of the impending danger, a company of men gathered at once to go to the spot and secure the body of their neighbor. Led by Hale, the party proceeded cautiously until, finally arriving at the scene of tragedy, they beheld the dead body of Driggs, shot through the heart. He had fallen in his tracks, and had not been mutilated or disturbed—treatment unusual for Indians, who often risk their lives to secure a scalp. Close examination revealed the fact that the murderer was very close to his victim, whose shirt was blackened and burned by the powder.

The still, cold face of the dead man, as he lay weltering in his blood, created a thrill of horror in the hearts of the beholders. The recollection of their own homes and families exposed to similar dangers decided in their minds the proper course to pursue, and, with one accord, they vowed

vengeance against the Indians. Settlers soon gathered together for a fight. Women and children were sent to a place of safety, and in a few instances the able-bodied head of the family had important business to attend to just at that time, and betook himself to parts unknown.

The settlers being reinforced by a company of militia from Chariton, everything was made ready for the approaching conflict, and the Indians, who at that time were encamped on Twelve Mile Creek, section 34, Pleasant Township, Union County, were surrounded, and their surrender demanded.

Having had some intimation of the trouble brewing, they were not surprised at the demand, wisely determining to remain and refute the charges, and after a short parley they stacked their arms and surrendered under protest.

A council was at once called, and the trial, though necessarily conducted in an informal manner, was proceeded with, the first step being to find the gun which the ball, taken from the body of the murdered man, would fit. One by one each gun was tried, until no more were left, but none were found which carried a ball of that caliber.

The whites then consulted aside; the Indians and their guns were all there, yet though generally believed to be the murderers of Driggs, it was impolitic to resort to extreme measures in the face of the facts developed.

At this point an old Indian, swarthy and muscular, by name Wanwoxen, stepped forward, and, in broken English, presented the cause of his people; recounting the friendly relations they had always sustained with the pale faces of the settlement, and expressing his sorrow and disapproval of the murder of Driggs, he pressed the point that the bullet would fit the gun of no Indian of the tribe. Gathering confidence, he became more eloquent, and with uncouth gestures argued their entire innocence, and called particular attention to the fact that the murderer's gun had burned the clothing of the dead man. Said he: "No Indian there! No Indian there! Indian never shoot when he can strike!" at the same time significantly touching his tomahawk. At the conclusion of his harangue he stepped out from his fellows, and throwing off his blanket and baring his breast, said: "Indian no shoot Driggs; shoot Indian if you want to."

These words, with their previous peaceable reputation, and more than all, the last self-sacrificing act of the warrior in offering himself a sacrifice to appease the wrath of the pale faces, created a diversion in their favor. Some of the whites were still disposed to believe the Indians guilty, while others took the opposite view. Hale was then subjected to a more searching examination. He manifested much hesitancy in testifying, and his stories failed to show that there were any Indians there, he claiming that he heard the shot fired and saw Driggs fall, but did not see who fired at him, but supposed it to be Indians.

After obtaining all the testimony possible, it was decided to restore the arms to the Indians, as no case had been made out against them. A feeling of apprehension obtained a foothold with many of the settlers, and the final result was the removal of the tribe to the Indian reservation in Kansas, about 1856.

Hale did not remain in the neighborhood, but soon after took his own and Driggs' wife and removed to Bear's Settlement, thirty-five miles south, in Missouri, and the sequel to the murder of Driggs showed the Indians to be entirely innocent of his death. The winter following, Mrs. Hale suddenly sickened and died, and rumors gained ground that everything was not right; it was then remembered

that the ball which failed to fit the Indians' rifles was the exact caliber of that used by Hale, and the opinion became current that he and not the Indians was the murderer; but the settlers, without exception, exonerate the Indians from all complicity in the matter.

Some property of the Indians, consisting of three guns and sixteen steel traps, was sold at auction by the sheriff, Peter Doze, the first Monday in December, 1855, toward defraying the expenses of the removal. November 6, 1855, the county judge issued warrants to several citizens to pay for provisions, used while removing the Indians to Kansas, as follows:

Catherine Himes, $3.50; Mary Imus, $3.50; Henry Rowlan, $3.00; Henry Broadwater, $2.50; Peter Doze, $5.00; Wendell Poor, $2.50; N. H. Dewitt, $3.00; F. A. Millsap, $33.10; Josiah Aldrich, $2.50; Henry Skidmore, $1.75; John Skidmore, $11.75; William Haviland, $1.75; David Edwards, $3.00; Barton B. Dunning, $10.00.

The Indians had no legal right to residence in this county, but had lingered for a time after the departure of the main body.

FIRST COURT.

The first district court for Ringgold County convened at Mt. Ayr, May 25, 1857. Judge John S. Townsend presided; Randolph Sry being the Clerk. John W. Warren was appointed Prosecuting Attorney. The following were the petit jurors: Sanford Harrow, David M. Lesan, John C. Stuart, William Skinner, William Francis, Henry Roland, John L. Rush, C. G. Rowell, Thomas Marshall, Henry Crabbs, William M. Water, A. W. Tice, Samuel Allison, A. J. McClerg, and L. S. Terwilliger. Luke Shay was naturalized at this term, this being the first business transacted after organizing the court. The first grand jury empanceled was at the October term of the same year, and was composed of the following persons: John Shields, William C. Harvey, William Turner, Michael Stahl, Isaac Oliver, Thomas M. Hall, Henry Arnett, John Morgan, John Carman, Gabriel Huffman, Henry J. Dewitt, William Arnett, Reuben B. Moulton, E. W. Rice, Anderson W. Tice.

RINGGOLD'S FIRST COUNTY JUDGE.

One of the most prominent men in the early history of the county was Judge Hagans, who wielded great influence from the time of his first election as county judge until his death. He came to the county from McDonough County, Illinois, in June, 1854, and was a native of Kentucky. He served the people three terms in the office of county judge, and was elected State Senator at the general election of 1857, from the district composed of the counties of Ringgold, Taylor, Adams, Union and Clarke. He served with ability in the Eighth and Ninth General Assemblies. He discharged his last senatorial and official duties at the extra session of September, 1862. Soon after this time his health began to fail. He died September 7, 1863, at his home in Mt. Ayr.

POLITICAL HISTORY.

PARTY government is the present, and possibly the future, though not the ideal, feature of our so-called republic, and men have, in America, been divided into political parties for 120 years. Upon the passage of the Stamp Act in 1765, parties for the first time began to take definite shape and manifest open antagonisms, and the words, Whig and Tory, then had a plainer meaning in America than in England. The Stamp Act was denounced by the Whigs as direct taxation, and so general were the protests that for a time it seemed that only those who owed their livings to the Crown, or expected aid and comfort from it, remained with the Tories. The Whigs were the patriots.

After independence was achieved, of course, all Americans were Whigs. In the first years of the United States as a federal union, under President Washington, there came about a division into "Particularist" and "Strong Government" Whigs, these soon adopting the more euphonious designations of Anti-Federals and Federals. The former, under Jefferson's lead, afterward became known as Republicans, which name was in the early part of 1806 dropped for that of Democrats. Hence Jefferson is often referred to as the founder of the Democratic party. If, however, this distinction can be claimed for any one man, the friends of Andrew Jackson have perhaps a stronger case.

The Democrats were in power in this country from 1801 to 1825, when John Quincy Adams, "the last of the Federalists," was chosen by Congress to fill the office of President, the people having failed to elect. General Jackson, however, had received a plurality of the popular vote, and the remembrance of this fact was one of the chief causes of Jackson's subsequent election in 1828. The elevation of General Jackson to the presidency was a triumph over the high protective policy, the federal internal improvement policy, and the latitudinous construction of the constitution, as well as of the Democracy over Federals, then known as National Republicans. This election was also the permanent re-establishment of parties on principle, according to the landmarks of the early years of the Government. For although

Mr. Adams had received confidence and office from Mr. Madison and Mr. Monroe, and had classed with the Democratic party during the "era of good feeling," yet he had previously been a Federal; and on the re-establishment of old party lines which began to take place after the election of Mr. Adams in the House of Representatives, his affinities and policy became those of his former party; and as a party, with many individual exceptions, they became his supporters and his strength.

The Democrats re-nominated Jackson in 1832, while in December preceding the National Republicans nominated Henry Clay. The hero of New Orleans was elected a second term by a goodly majority.

The Democracy being in power, the followers of Clay gradually adopted the name of Whigs, which was suggested by the fact that in England the opposition to the Government was known by that appellation. Hence, more than any one man, Henry Clay is looked upon as the founder of the Whig party, which played an important part in American politics for some twenty years. In 1836 they nominated General William Henry Harrison, who was defeated by Martin Van Buren, the choice of the Democratic party. In the closing year of Jackson's administration, however, a step had been taken which ultimately brought about the temporary downfall of his party. This step was the distribution of revenue among the States in 1837, which was designed to enhance the value of the State stocks held by the United States Bank. The result was far different, however, and thousands are still living who can tell of the financial crisis of 1837 and the general stringency following.

It is natural for the people to charge financial and other troubles, from war down to crop failures, upon the party in power. So it was in those times, and the result was the ascendency of the Whigs after the next election, in 1840. On the Whig ticket, General Harrison, of Ohio, was the candidate for President, and John Tyler, of Virginia, for Vice-President. Mr. Clay, the most prominent Whig in the country, was not deemed available, and the leading men in the party were again put aside to make room for a military man, a step prompted by the example previously set by the Democrats in the case of General Jackson. The men who managed presidential elections believed then as now that military renown was a passport to popularity and rendered a candidate more sure of election. The contest before the people was a long and bitter one, the severest ever known in the country up to that time, and scarcely equaled since. The whole Whig party and the large league of suspended banks, headed by the bank of the United States, making its last struggle for a new national charter in the effort to elect a President friendly to it, were arrayed against the Democrats, whose hard-money policy and independent treasury schemes were met with little favor in the then depressed condition of the treasury. The Democrats worked for the re-election of President Van Buren, with Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky, as Vice-President, but the Whigs were ultimately successful.

The question of extending slave territory by the annexation of Texas was the principal one in the campaign of 1844, and avowedly so in the platforms. The Democracy nominated James K. Polk for President, and George M. Dallas for Vice-President. The Whigs nominated their great leader, Henry Clay, with Theodore Frelinghuysen for Vice-President. Owing largely to the influence of a third party, the Free-Soilers, Clay was defeated in one of the closest elections ever held.

Another presidential year brought forward new men and new issues. The Dem-

ocrats nominated General Lewis Cass for President, and George William O. Butler for Vice-President. The Whigs took advantage of the popularity of General Zachary Taylor, for his military achievements in the Mexican war, just ended, and his consequent "availability," nominated him for the presidency over Clay, Webster and Scott, who were his competitors before the convention. The party which had been made by the greatness of the latter won an easy victory.

The presidential election of 1852 was the last campaign in which the Whig party appeared in National politics. It nominated a ticket with General Winfield Scott as its candidate for President. His opponent on the Democratic ticket was General Franklin Pierce. A third ticket was placed in the field by the Abolition party, with John P. Hale as its candidate for President. The political see-saw now brought the Democrats in power again.

Thus, at the beginning of the civil history of Ringgold County the Democrats were in control, with Franklin Pierce as President, and the Whig party was disintegrating as a National organization. The citizens of Ringgold County having come from those Eastern States where the Whigs were strongest, retained their politics after settling here, so that this was a Whig county during its infancy. There was, however, never a fair test of strength, for in local elections personal popularity went much farther than partisanship, and before the county's politics was settled by a presidential election, the death of the Whig party was an accomplished fact, and a new organization, the Republican party, arose from its ashes. Henceforth the giant parties were Democrats and Republicans, the latter absorbing all the elements then existing opposed to the further extension of slavery. The new party was born in a number of places almost simultaneously, but in each case with the same motives and with similar constituent elements. The movement assumed definite shape in the summer of 1854, when, for Governor of Iowa, James W. Grimes was nominated by the Republicans to oppose Curtis Bates, the choice of the Democracy. Iowa had hitherto been under the control of the latter party, but the Republicans now carried it, in their first campaign, and it has since remained in the ranks of Republicanism, by majorities sometimes running as high as 80,000. Mr. Grimes' personal ability had much to do with the successful organization of the Republicans in Iowa.

In the organic election of Ringgold County, May 14, 1855, and also in the August election following, National politics played no part. Candidates were favored or opposed solely for personal reasons. However, all the successful ones were Whigs, except Peter Doze, the first sheriff, and afterward assessor, who was and is a zealous Democrat. County Judge Hagans, Treasurer and Recorder Cofer, and School Fund Commissioner Poor, were all Whigs, and afterward Republicans. The total vote in May, 1855, was but 34; in August it was 91.

The year following, 1856, party lines were for the first time marked out in Ringgold County, and they have since been pretty generally regarded, though for the local offices a not inconsiderable voting element has always manifested an independent spirit—a willingness to "scratch" the ticket on personal grounds.

The first National convention of the Republican party nominated John C. Fremont for President, and Wm. L. Dayton for Vice-President. Its platform consisted of a series of resolutions, of which the most important was the following:

"That we deny the authority of Congress, of a Territorial Legislature, of any individual or association of individuals, to give

legal existence to slavery in any Territory of the United States, while the present Constitution shall be maintained."

The Democratic convention nominated James Buchanan for President, and John C. Beckinridge for Vice-President. It adopted a platform which contained the material portions of all its previous platforms, and also defined its position to the new issues of the day, and declared (1) that the revenue to be raised should not exceed the actual necessary expenses of the Government, and for the gradual extinction of the public debt; (2) that the Constitution does not confer upon the General Government the power to commence and carry on a general system of internal improvements; (3) for a strict construction of the powers granted by the Constitution to the Federal Government; (4) that Congress has no power to charter a National bank; (5) that Congress has no power to interfere with slavery in the States and Territories, the people of which have the exclusive right and power to settle that question for themselves; (6) opposition to Americanism.

That Buchanan was elected was in no degree due to Ringgold County, which gave Fremont a plurality of 28, in spite of the fact that a large element of the Republican following was drawn into support of the American, or "Know Nothing" party, whose candidate was Millard Fillmore, and who received almost as many votes in Ringgold County as Buchanan. The vote was: Fremont, 92; Buchanan, 64; Fillmore, 52. The county officers elected this year (clerk, school fund commissioner and sheriff), were all Republicans, and received little opposition. The county's part in politics since has been in the same line. It has been monotonously faithful to the Republicans. It has here never been a serious question of which party, but merely how much majority.

At the August election, in 1857, a full county ticket was put in the field by the Republicans, which had no organized opposition. The majorities were all over 100. Lowe's majority for Governor, in October, was but 47, however. In 1858 two full tickets were run, the Republican majority being about 100 in a total vote of 330. In 1859 Kirkwood's majority for Governor was 125 in a total vote of 395. The county officers had a close contest, and the vote was remarkably close, the majorities ranging from 1 to 23.

The four years of Buchanan's administration were rife with political discussions on the slavery question, the status of the negro and the troubles in Kansas. The Southern Democrats, true to the supposed interests of their section became more aggressive in their demands in behalf of slavery, while their brethren in the North followed the lead of Douglas in endeavoring to compromise the slavery question. The two wings differed more and more widely, and in their national convention at Charleston were unable to agree upon a platform or a candidate, so that the Southern Democrats withdrew in a body. The convention re-assembled at Baltimore, and after a protracted struggle nominated Stephen A. Douglas and Herschel V. Johnson. Their platform declared that the decisions of the Supreme Court, respecting the status of slavery in the Territories, should be respected. The Southern Democrats, however, held another convention and nominated John C. Breckinridge and Joseph Lane. The platform adopted contained in regard to the main question at issue the statement that slaves in the Territories should be recognized by the Government as property.

The Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin, and resolved that Kansas should be admitted as a free State, and that the Government should effectually prohibit slavery in the Territo-

ries. A so-called Constitutional Union Convention was also held, which nominated John Bell and Edward Everett.

The conclusion of this many-sided political fight was the election of Lincoln, who received, however, but two-fifths of the popular vote. In this county the canvass was exceedingly warm, and Lincoln received 348 votes to 182 for Douglas, and three for Bell. The third and fourth parties received very little favor here. This was the heaviest vote yet cast in the county. The majorities on the State ticket were all over 160. But two county officers were chosen, a clerk by 42 votes, and a surveyor by 91.

In the State and county election of 1861, a very light vote was drawn out. The Democratic ticket received less than 100 votes, and the Republican majorities ranged from 186, for clerk, up to 290 for Congressman. In 1862 the majority on the State ticket was 180. For clerk it reached 221, Thomas Ross being the popular man; for treasurer and recorder John T. Williams' majority was 127, and for county judge Wendell Poor received but 103 votes more than his competitor.

The war seemed to strengthen the Republicans in this State so that it was almost perfunctory that any other party made nominations. Colonel William M. Stone had made himself so popular by his services in the field that in the summer of 1863 he was nominated for Governor against James M. Tuttle. Not a very full vote was cast in Ringgold, but this was more than three to one in favor of the Republicans. Stone received 353 votes to 114 for Tuttle, or a majority of 239. Even this was the smallest majority given any man on the ticket (except for representative, 237), the county officers being elected with little or no opposition.

In 1864 the war was being waged on a scale never before seen in history, at vast expense, and it was uncertain how long the Confederacy could maintain armed resistance. The Republicans were generally unanimous in supporting the coercion policy of the Government, while the Democrats, on the other hand, were in favor of a change of policy, and of peace on any terms that would save the Union. The Republican convention of 1864 therefore re-nominated Abraham Lincoln by a unanimous vote, save Missouri, whose delegation voted for Ulysses S. Grant. Andrew Johnson was nominated for Vice-President. The platform approved the emancipation proclamation, declared slavery dead, pledged support for the further prosecution of the war, and demanded the unconditional surrender of the rebellious States. The Democratic convention nominated George B. McClellan and George H. Pendleton, and adopted a platform criticising the methods of the administration. Lincoln received 212 electoral votes to McClellan's twenty-one, the people indorsing the old maxim "that it is dangerous to swap horses while crossing a stream." In Ringgold County the Lincoln ticket received a majority of 243, in a total vote of 395. The Democratic vote was from fifty-nine to seventy-six. They made no nominations for county offices.

Equally one-sided was the general election of 1865 for State and county officers; but in certain respects things were rather "mixed." Governor Stone, a candidate for re-election, was so pronounced in favor of negro suffrage that he ran behind his ticket, and in this county received 336 votes, against 152 for T. H. Benton. No contest was made for the county offices except for sheriff, in which case the vote was close. D. B. Marshall, the successful candidate, had but thirteen votes more than his opponent. The situation was about the same in 1866, no contest being made for county officers, and the Demo-

cratic vote being less than a fourth of the total for State officers. In 1867 the Democrats organized and made a vigorous campaign, the result of which was that they polled nearly half as many votes as the Republicans, or a little over 200 votes. They nominated candidates for most of the local offices, and gave them the full party vote. Both parties desired to nominate General Grant in 1868, but the Republicans stole a march on their opponents by holding their convention first. Schuyler Colfax was named for Vice-President. The Democratic convention was for a long time unable to decide between Pendleton, Hancock, Hendricks and others; but on the twenty-second ballot Horatio Seymour, whose name had been scarcely mentioned before, was unanimously nominated, together with Francis P. Blair for Vice-President. An active canvass followed, in which the brief expression, "Let us have peace," in Grant's letter of acceptance, was liberally employed by Republican journals and orators to tone down what were regarded as rapidly-growing race and sectional differences, and with such effect that Grant carried all of the States save eight, receiving an electoral vote of 214 against 80. His majority in this county was 262 in a total vote of 774. This was the largest vote cast in the county up to this time. The majorities were about the same for all the offices.

In 1869 the Democrats nominated another list of candidates, who were defeated by the usual vote—a little more than two to one. The majorities ranged from 200 to 400. In 1870 the disproportion was still greater, on State ticket. No contest was made for county offices. In 1871 the Republican majority in this county for Governor was 432. The Democrats tried to elect their leaders for several county offices, and came nearer doing it than since 1859.

An issue raised in Missouri gave immediate rise to the Liberal Republican party, though the course of Horace Greeley had long pointed toward the organization of something of the kind, and with equal plainness it pointed to his desire to be its champion and candidate for the presidency. In 1870 the Republican party in Missouri, then in control of the Legislature, split on the question of the removal of the disqualifications imposed upon rebels by the State Constitution during the war. Those favoring the removal of disabilities were headed by B. Gratz Brown and Carl Schurz, and they called themselves Liberal Republicans. Those opposed were called and accepted the name of Radical Republicans. The former quickly allied themselves with the Democrats, and thus carried the State, though Grant's administration "stood in" with the Radicals. The liberal movement rapidly spread, and its leaders at once began to lay plans to carry the next presidential election. Horace Greeley was nominated for President, and B. Gratz Brown for Vice-President. The Democratic convention indorsed these nominations, but a few dissatisfied Democrats named Charles O'Conor and John Quincy Adams. The Republicans re-nominated General Grant, with Henry Wilson for Vice-President. The Republicans were overwhelmingly successful, not so much from the popularity of Grant as from the unpopularity of Greeley. The vote in Ringgold County was: Grant, 805; Greeley, 215: O'Conor, 1; Grant's plurality, 590. The Republican State ticket received about 30 less majority, as did their candidate for clerk of courts. Their man for recorder received 234 majority, while the candidate for surveyor got in by only 9 votes.

A heavy vote was brought out in 1873, the Republican majority averaging 100 less than in 1872 for State officers. The candi-

dates for the local offices received all sorts of majorities, and one office, the treasurership, was captured by the Democrats, or rather the fusion ticket, for the Democrats and "Anti-monopolists" pooled their issues. Allen Higgins was the lucky candidate. In 1874 the Republican majority averaged about 100, the reduction being due to the fusion of opposing elements. In 1875 the Republican majority for Governor was 373. The county officials were elected by figures from 166 to 290.

The troubles in the South and the almost general overthrow of the "carpet-bag" governments impressed all with the fact that the presidential election of 1876 would be exceedingly close, and the result confirmed this belief. The Republicans nomated Rutherford B. Hayes and William A. Wheeler, and the Democrats, Samuel J. Tilden and Thomas A. Hendricks. A third party had sprung into existence, called at first "Greenbackers," but latterly "National Greenbackers," who desired to relieve the financial crisis of 1873 and the hard times following by a large issue of irredeemable paper money. They nominated Peter Cooper and Samuel F. Cary. After a contest for months over the returns of this election, Hayes was declared elected. The vote in this county was: Hayes, 1,245; Tilden, 422; Cooper, 245; Hayes' plurality, 823. The same figures obtained on the State ticket. The Greenback vote increased from this year until about 1881.

The Republican majority for Governor in 1877 was 293. The majorities for county offices were from 52 to 335. In 1878 the contest was closer, the Republican majorities being from 100 to 200 on State ticket, and about the same on local issues. In 1879 the majorities were all the way from 20 to 253.

In 1880 James A. Garfield, Winfield S. Hancock and James B. Weaver were the standard-bearers of the three National parties. The vote in this county was: Garfield, 1,450; Weaver, 525; Hancock, 436; Republican plurality, 925. It will be noticed that the Greenbackers polled nearly 100 votes more than the Democrats. For the county offices these two parties have fused every year recently, though their combined strength is much less than the Republican vote. The Republican majority for county offices was in 1880 about 500.

In 1881 Governor Sherman's plurality was 602. The Greenback vote outnumbered the Democratic more than two to one, and the Republicans were more than twice as numerous as the Greenbackers. The fusionists carried one county office, John W. Been being elected sheriff. The Republican majorities for the remaining offices were much less than that for Governor. At the special election of June 27, 1882, on prohibition, the question stood in this county, 1,640 for, and 570 against; majority, 1,070. In 1882 the Republican plurality on State ticket was 550, and between 300 and 400 on county ticket. In 1883 the Greenback strength fell off, in comparison with the Democratic, and it has since remained the smaller of the two parties in opposition to Republicanism in Ringgold County. Governor Sherman's plurality was 845. The majorities on the local ticket varied from five to 475.

The presidential campaign of 1884, with its personal animosities and bitter discussions, is fresh in the minds of all. James G. Blaine stood for the hitherto successful party; Grover Cleveland was supported by the Democrats and the "Mugwumps," or protesting Republicans; Benjamin F. Butler was the nominee of the Greenback and Labor conventions, and John P. St. John was the candidate of the Prohibitionists. Cleveland was elected by about 1,100 votes in New York State. In Ringgold County the vote was: Blaine, 1,677;

Cleveland, 1,096; Blaine's majority, 581. This was the average majority of the whole ticket. In 1885 Larrabee's plurality for Governor was 552. The majorities for county officers were from 334 to 693.

Of the seventeen civil townships in Ringgold County, the Fusion party can usually carry Union, Benton, Middle Fork and sometimes Athens and Monroe. The others are safely Republican.

Political campaigns in this county have always been marked by good nature on the part of the candidates, and good order on the part of voters. The county offices have, as a rule, been filled by industrious, capable and honest officials.

OFFICIAL REGISTER.

The following register of the names of those who have held office in Ringgold County, with years of service, has been prepared from the records of the county.

COUNTY JUDGES.

James C. Hagans, 1855–'9; Isaac W. Keller, 1860–'62, resigned in September, 1862; Wendell Poor, appointed to fill vacancy, then elected to office, 1862–'5; Isaac W. Keller, 1866–'7; John T. Williams, 1868–'9. The office of county judge was abolished at the end of 1868, and the duties chiefly devolved upon the newly-created office of auditor. During Judge Williams' second year as county judge he performed only the duties of auditor.

AUDITORS.

John T. Williams, 1869; John McFarland, 1870–'5; R. F. Askren, 1876–'9; J. C. Askren, 1880–'1; J. E. Doze, 1882–'5; Henry H. Ross, 1886–.

CLERKS OF COURTS.

Mathew B. Brown, 1855, resigned October 10; Andrew W. Tice, appointed to fill vacancy, then elected to office, 1855–'6; Randolph Sry, 1856–'60; T. F. How, 1861, died in office; Ith S. Beall, 1861–'4; Thomas Ross, 1865–'70; H. C. Andrews, 1871–'2; George S. Allyn, 1873–'8; Thomas Liggett, 1879–'84; James H. Burke, 1885–.

TREASURERS AND RECORDERS.

Joseph W. Cofer, 1855–'7; A. G. Beall, 1857–'9; John Birkhimer, 1860–'1; Alex. Z. Huggins, 1862, resigned in September; John T. Williams, appointed to fill vacancy, then elected to the office, 1862–'4. The offices of recorder and treasurer were separate from January 1, 1865.

TREASURERS.

John T. Williams, 1865–'7; C. W. Dake, 1868–'71; Allen Higgins, 1872–'5; Henry Todd, 1876–'9; A. M. Poor, 1880–'5; Thomas Campbell, 1886–.

RECORDERS.

Wendell Poor, 1865–'6; Warren R. Turk 1867–'72; Hugh A. White, 1873–'4; B. F. Day, 1875–'6; H. H. Parsons, 1877–'82; John C. McClurg, 1883–.

SHERIFFS.

Hiron Imus, 1855, May to August; Peter Doze, 1855–'6; Charles H. Schooler, 1856–'8, resigned; Samuel Allison, appointed to fill vacancy, then elected, 1858–'9; John D. Carter, 1860–'1; John McGaughey, 1862–'3; Luther Tillotson, 1864–'5; D. B. Marshall, 1866–'7; John A. Lesan, 1868–'9; D. B. Marshall, 1870–'3; J. R. Henderson, 1874–'5; H. A. White, 1876–'9; W. A. Delashmutt, 1880–'1; John H. Been, 1882–'3; James Beard, 1884.

SCHOOL FUND COMMISSIONERS.

Charles H. Schooler, 1855, resigned July 2; Wendell Poor, appointed to fill vacancy.

then elected to office, 1855–'7. Office abolished and duties devolved upon

SUPERINTENDENTS OF COUNTY SCHOOLS.

Wendell Poor, 1858–'9; A. G. Beall, 1860–'1; Edgar Sheldon, 1862–'3; W. T. Laughlin, 1864–'5; Andrew Johnson, 1866–'7; Henry H. Ross, 1868, resigned in September; H. C. Andrews, appointed to fill vacancy, then elected to office, 1868–'9; William J. Buck, 1870–'1; R. F. Askren, 1872–'5; W. J. Work, 1876–'9; W. E. Andrews, 1880–'1; T. E. Dubois, 1882.

SURVEYORS.

James White, 1855–'6; Isaac B. Tallmadge, 1856–'9; Samuel Allison, appointed to fill vacancy caused by S. J. Hall, who had been elected, not qualifying, 1860–'3; A. G. Beall, 1864–'9; Henry H. Ross, 1870–'3; E. B. Heaton, 1874–'9; Henry H. Ross, 1880–'3; Edgar Sheldon, 1884.

SUPERVISORS (TOWNSHIP SYSTEM).

1861.—Randolph Sry, Mt. Ayr, Chairman; Charles H. Schooler, Lott's Creek; Parks Brittain, Platt; Martin Patrick, Athens; Andrew Johnson, East Fork; James Richards, Jr., Sand Creek; L. N. Lewis, West Fork; John T. Williams, Washington, and Allen Higgins, Middle Fork.

1862.—Thomas Ross, Mt. Ayr, Chairman; James Richards, Jr., Sand Creek; L. N. Lewis, West Fork; John T. Williams. Washington; Allen Higgins, Middle Fork; John Gard, Platt; Charles H. Schooler, Lott's Creek; Andrew Johnson, East Fork, and Martin Patrick, Athens.

1863.—Ith S. Beall, Mt. Ayr, Chairman; Silas Tedrow, Athens; Charles H. Schooler, Lott's Creek; Absalom Baird, West Fork; John Gard, Platt; Nathan Miller, Middle Fork; Iradell Cooper, East Fork; G. C. Nulph, Washington, and Standbury Wright, Sand Creek.

1864.—Ith S. Beall, Mt. Ayr, Chairman; G. C. Nulph, Washington; Absalom Baird, West Fork; James T. Blades, Lott's Creek; D. F. Sellards, Athens; John A. Lesan, East Fork; John Gard, Platt; E. M. Dennis, Middle Fork, and Standbury Wright, Sand Creek.

1865.—D. F. Sellards, Athens, Chairman; Standbury Wright, Sand Creek; John Gard, Platt; Absalom Baird, West Fork; James T. Blades, Lott's Creek; John A. Lesan, Mt. Ayr; A. F. Talbot, Washington; A. C. Tardy, Middle Fork, and Hiron Imus, East Fork. A. F. Talbot was chairman after the resignation of D. F. Sellards, whose place as supervisor was filled by L. R. Larue. Michael Stahl, of Platt, succeeded John Gard.

1866.—A. F. Talbot, Washington, Chairman; Standbury Wright, Sand Ceeek; Absalom Baird, West Fork; A. C. Tardy, Middle Fork; Hiron Imus, East Fork; Jesse Thompson, Lott's Creek; L. D. Riley, Athens; Green B. Reynolds, Platt, and E. G. Martin, Mt. Ayr. Absalom Baird was chairman during the latter part of the year, Mr. Talbot having removed from his township, and James H. Ruby was appointed supervisor from that township to succeed Talbot.

1867.—E. G. Martin, Mt. Ayr, Chairman; Standbury Wright, Sand Creek; Green B. Reynolds, Platt; John D. Carter, West Fork; Jesse Thompson, Lott's Creek; Josiah Vorhies, Washington; A. C. Tardy, Middle Fork; L. D. Riley, Athens, and John A. Lesan, East Fork.

1868.—John D. Carter, West Fork, Chairman; Standbury Wright, Sand Creek; Isaac A. Tally, Platt; Jesse Thompson, Lott's Creek; A. G. Beall, Mt. Ayr; A. C. Tardy, Middle Fork; L. D. Riley, Athens; A. Lorimor, Liberty; Job Rush, Monroe; James H. Ruby, Washington, and Josiah Vorhies, Jefferson.

1869.—Absalom Baird, Clinton, Chair-

man: Edgar Sheldon, Sand Creek; Josiah Vorhies, Jefferson; Isaac A. Tally, Platt; James H. Ruby, Washington; Asher Lorimor, Liberty; L. T. Long, Monroe; L. D. Riley, Athens; A. G. Beall, Mt. Ayr; John Stevenson, Benton; Allen Higgins, Middle Fork, and Jesse Thompson, Lott's Creek.

1870.—Edgar Sheldon, Tingley, Chairman; John Dixon, Union; Josiah Vorhies, Jefferson; J. P. Lambert, Lincoln; Green B. Reynolds, Grant; James H. Ruby, Washington; Asher Lorimor, Liberty; Lewis T. Long, Monroe; Milton Reynolds, Athens; J. F. Mount, Mt. Ayr; John Stevenson, Benton; Absalom Baird, Clinton; Allen Higgins, Middle Fork, and Jabez E. Varney, Lott's Creek.

SUPERVISORS (PRESENT SYSTEM).

1871.—Andrew Johnston, Chairman; N. Miller and J. F. Mount. Mr. Johnston resigned in October. His place as a member was filled by Edward B. Heaton, and Nathan Miller was chosen chairman.

1872.—Nathan Miller, Chairman; Absalom Baird and Edward B. Heaton.

1873.—Absalom Baird, Chairman; Aaron Nash and C. K. Pierson.

1874.—Absalom Baird, Chairman; Aaron Nash and Isaac W. Keller.

1875.—Aaron Nash, Chairman; Isaac W. Keller and W. H. Barnes.

1876.—Isaac W. Keller, Chairman; W. H. Barnes and James A. Miller.

1877.—W. H. Barnes, Chairman; James A. Miller and S. England.

1878.—James A. Miller, Chairman; S. England and A. Goodell.

1879.—S. England, Chairman; A. Goodell and James A. Miller.

1880.—A. Goodell, Chairman; James A. Miller and Alexander Beard.

1881.—James A. Miller, Chairman; Alexander Beard and Thomas A. Stevenson.

1882.—Alexander Beard, Chairman; Thomas A. Stevenson and G. S. Moore.

1883.—Thomas A. Stevenson, Chairman; G. S. Moore and E. J. Price.

1884.—G. S. Moore, Chairman; E. J. Price and E. J. Pratt.

1885.—E. J. Price, Chairman; E. J. Pratt and Andrew Johnston.

1886.—E. J. Pratt, Chairman; Andrew Johnston and L. D. Riley.

SENATORS.

Samuel Dale, 1856–'9; James C. Hagans, 1860–'3; L. W. Hillyer, 1864–'5; C. G. Bridges, 1866–'7; Isaac W. Keller, 1868–'71; Elisha T. Smith, 1872–'5; Fred Teale, 1876–'9; Isaac W. Keller, 1880–'3; A. P. Stephens, 1884–.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Samuel H. Moer, 1856–'7; W. B. Davis, 1858–'9; Reuben A. Moser, 1860–'3; William Elliott, 1864–'5; Alexander Z. Huggins, 1866–'7; Leonard T. McCoun, 1868–'71; Andrew Johnston, 1872–'5; S. W. McElderry, 1876–'7; Allen Higgins, 1878–'9; Charles C. Bosworth, 1880–'3; John Coie, 1884–.

CONGRESSMEN.

Augustus Hall, 1855–'7; Samuel R. Curtis, 1857–'62; James F. Wilson, 1862–'3; John A. Kasson, 1863–'7; Grenville M. Dodge, 1867–'9; Frank W. Palmer, 1869–'73; James W. McDill, 1873–'7; W. F. Sapp, 1877–'81; William P. Hepburn, 1881–

DISTRICTS.

Ringgold was in the First Congressional District (then half of the State), until 1863, then for ten years in the Fifth District, and since 1873 in the Eighth.

Until the adoption of the present Constitution the county formed a part of the Sixth Judicial District, except one year, when it was attached to the Ninth District. Since 1858 it has formed a part of the Third Judicial District, which now in-

cludes Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Montgomery, Page, Ringgold, Taylor and Union counties.

For Senatorial purposes, beginning with 1856, Ringgold was joined with Fremont, Mills, Taylor, Page, Montgomery, Adams and Union counties as the Eleventh District. Four years later, with Taylor, Adams, Union and Clarke counties, it made the Sixth District. Two years later Clarke was detached, and Page and Montgomery added. In 1866–'7 Ringgold and Decatur formed the Sixth District. This arrangement endured four years, when Taylor was added, and the district numbered the Seventh. In 1884 it was again put in the Sixth, with Taylor and Union counties.

For representation in the lower branch of the General Assembly no arrangement endured any great length of time. In 1856–'7 it was with Mills, Taylor, Page, Montgomery and Adams counties as the Fourteenth District. In 1858–'9 it was joined with Adams, Union, Page and Taylor, in the Forty-fourth District. Then for two years Ringgold and Taylor formed the Seventh District. Next, Union was added, and the district numbered the Sixty-second, Two years later Union was taken away again, and Ringgold and Taylor became the Sixty-sixth District. In 1866–'7 the same counties composed the Sixty-seventh, in 1868–'9 the Sixty-fifth, and in 1870–'3 the Fifteenth. Then Ringgold was joined with Union to make the Fourteenth District, for four years. Since 1878 Ringgold County has formed the Fifteenth District by itself.

THE CIVIL WAR.

THE people of the Northern States have just reason to be proud of the glorious record they made during the dark and bloody days when crimson-handed rebellion threatened the life of the nation. When war was forced upon the country by rebels in arms against the Government, the people were quietly pursuing the even tenor of their ways, doing whatever their hands found to do—working the mines, making farms, or cultivating those already made, erecting homes, building shops, founding cities and towns, building mills and factories—in short, the country was alive with industry and hopes for the future. The people were just recovering from the depression and losses incident to the financial panic of 1857. The future looked bright and promising, and the industrious and patriotic sons and daughters of the free States were buoyant with hope, looking forward to the perfecting of new plans for the insurement of comfort and competence in their declining years; they little heeded the mutterings and threatenings of treason's children, in the slave States of the South. True sons and descendants of the heroes of the "times that tried men's souls"—the struggle for American independence—they never dreamed that there was even one so base as to dare attempt the destruction of the Union of their fathers—a Government baptized with the best blood the world ever knew. While immediately surrounded with peace and tranquillity, they paid but little attention to the rumored plots and plans of those who lived and grew rich from the sweat and toil, blood and flesh of others—aye, even trafficked in the offspring of their own loins. Nevertheless, the war came, with all its attendant horrors.

April 12, 1861, Fort Sumter, at Charleston, South Carolina, Major Anderson, U. S. A., Commandant, was fired upon by rebels in arms. Although basest treason, this first act in the bloody reality that followed was looked upon as a mere bravado of a few hot-heads—the act of a few fire-eaters whose sectional bias and freedom and hatred was crazed by the excessive indulgence in intoxicating potations. When, a day later, the news was borne along the telegraph wires that Major Anderson had been forced to surrender to what had first been regarded as a drunken mob, the patriotic people of the North were startled from their dreams of the future, from undertakings half completed, and made to realize that behind that mob there was a

dark, deep and well-organized purpose to destroy the Government, rend the Union in twain, and out of its ruins erect a slave oligarchy, wherein no one would dare question their right to hold in bondage the sons and daughters of men whose skins were black, or who, perchance, through practices of lustful natures, were half or quarter removed from the color that God, for his own purposes had given them. But they "reckoned without their host." Their dreams of the future, their plans for the establishment of an independent confederacy, were doomed from their inception to sad and bitter disappointment.

Immediately upon the surrender of Fort Sumter, Abraham Lincoln, America's martyr President, who, but a few short weeks before, had taken the oath of office as the nation's Chief Executive, issued a proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteers for three months. The last word had scarcely been taken from the electric wires before the call was filled. Men and money were counted out by hundreds and thousands. The people who loved their whole Government could not give enough. Patriotism thrilled and vibrated and pulsated through every heart. The farm, the workshop, the office, the pulpit, the bar, the bench, the college, the school-house, every calling offered its best men, their lives and fortunes, in defense of the Government's honor and unity. Party lines were for the time ignored. Bitter words, spoken in moments of political heat, were forgotten and forgiven, and, joining hands in a common cause, they repeated the oath of America's soldier-statesman: "By the great Eternal, the Union must and shall be preserved!"

Seventy-five thousand men were not enough to subdue the rebellion. Nor were ten times that number. The war went on, and call followed call, until it began to look as if there would not be men enough in all the free States to crush out and subdue the monstrous war traitors had inaugurated. But to every call for either men or money there was a willing and ready response. And it is a boast of the people that, had the supply of men fallen short, there were women brave enough, daring enough, patriotic enough, to have offered themselves as sacrifices on their country's altar. Such were the impulses, motives and actions of the patriotic men of the North, among whom the sons of Ringgold County made a conspicuous and praiseworthy record. Of the offerings made by these people during the great and final struggle between freedom and slavery it is the purpose now to write.

April 14, A. D. 1861, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, issued the following:

PROCLAMATION.

"WHEREAS, The laws of the United States have been and now are violently opposed in several States, by combinations too powerful to be suppressed in the ordinary way; I therefore call for the militia of the several States of the Union, to the aggregate number of 75,000, to suppress said combinations and execute the laws. I appeal to all loyal citizens to facilitate and aid in this effort to maintain the laws and the integrity of the perpetuity of the popular Government, and redress wrongs long enough endured. The first service assigned to the forces, probably, will be to repossess the forts, places and property which have been seized from the Union. Let the utmost care be taken, consistent with the object, to avoid devastation, destruction, interference with the property of peaceful citizens in any part of the country; and I hereby command persons composing the aforesaid combination to disperse within twenty days from date.

"I hereby convene both Houses of Congress for the 4th day of July next, to deter-

mine upon measures for public safety which the interest of the subject demands.

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
"*President of the United States.*
"WM. H. SEWARD,
"*Secretary of State.*"

The gauntlet thrown down by the traitors of the South was accepted—not, however, in the spirit with which insolence meets insolence, but with a firm determined spirit of patriotism and love of country. The duty of the President was plain, under the Constitution and the laws, and above and beyond all, the people, from whom political power is derived, demanded the suppression of the rebellion, and stood ready to sustain the authority of their representatives and executive officers.

The absence of the files of newspapers in this county, from 1861 to 1865, renders it impossible for the historian to do full justice to the spirit and patriotism of this people in the early days of America's gigantic and bloody struggle against rebellion, and their liberal contributions to maintain the integrity of this nation.

Though remote from the capital and large cities which were made rendezvous for volunteers, Ringgold County was prompt in responding to demands made upon it. The first few volunteers from the county did not go as a body, but were scattered in different commands. The first large body of Ringgold County volunteers was raised in June, 1861, and went into quarters July 4. They were re-inforced by about a score of volunteers from other counties, and then, August 15, mustered into the service of the United States as

COMPANY G, FOURTH IOWA INFANTRY.

The Ringgold volunteers in this company were:

Edmund W. Rice, Lovena Hopkins, Randolph Sry, Ellis C. Miller, John A. Miller, Peter O. James, Nathan B. Mandlin, Francis Bennett, Eli Drake, William Freshwater, William W. Robinson, Nathaniel T. Marshall, Joseph S. Robinson, Benjamin W. Talbot, John W. Johnston, Samuel R. Jacobs, Branson L. Addington, Robert Shields, Charles Haggins, David B. Marshall, Michael Danelly, Joseph C. Addington, William C. Arnett, James P. Abbie, Francis Bennett, Leander H. Barton, Myron Barton, Russell Bailey, Lorenzo D. Baker, Francis Cossairt, Henry Cossairt, Samuel Casteel, William Casteel, Caspar Denhart, Joseph L. Dugan, John F. Garrison, G. W. Garrison, William H. Glendenning, Joseph C. Gilliland, Jasper Hagans, Thomas V. Hustin, William H. Irvins, Samuel R. Jacoba, Gustavus Kindblade, John Marshall, Nathan B. Mandlin, John N. Moulton, James M. Millsap, William H. Nobles, Bernard Preston, Henry Platner, John W. B. Parker, Charles W. Powers, Thomas Phillips, Preston Runyan, Joseph B. Russell, Elias W. Russell, Alexander Rogers, Ferdinand B. Soles, Daniel B. Smith, William Smith, Robert Shields, George Trask, Hilery M. Thompson, Charles H. Warford, Elijah Walden and Standbury Wright, Jr.

There afterward enlisted in this company from this county George W. Cossairt, John W. Johnson, Edwin D. Page, William Riley, Esuc L. Soles, Theodore P. Trusk and Isaac Hensley.

Edmund W. Rice was the first Captain of the company; Lovena Hopkins, First Lieutenant, and Randolph Sry, Second Lieutenant. Captain Rice resigned September 5, 1861, and Lieutenant Hopkins succeeded him, while Lieutenant Sry was promoted to Hopkins' rank, and Sergeant Ellis C. Miller became Second Lieutenant. Sry subsequently became Captain, and Francis Bennett, First Lieutenant.

The Fourth Infantry became one of the

most famous Iowa regiments in the service. It was made up of volunteers from Southern Iowa—one company from Mills County, one from Pottawatomie and adjoining counties, one from Guthrie, one from Decatur, one from Polk, one from Madison, one from Ringgold, one from Wayne, one from Page and Taylor counties, and one from Union, Cass and Adams counties.

The Fourth Infantry left the State of Iowa, August 9, 1861, went immediately to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, and staid there until August 24, when it went to Rolla, Missouri. The regiment left Rolla January 22, 1862, with the Army of the Southwest, and was continually on the march, save now and then a few days, until its arrival at Helena, Arkansas, July 14, 1862. The regiment fought at Chickasaw Bayou on the 28th and 29th of December, then embarked and went up the Arkansas River, and fought at Arkansas Post on the 10th and 11th of January, 1863; then returned to the front of Vicksburg, landing at Young's Point, January 22, 1863. April 2 the regiment embarked, and went 150 miles up the Mississippi River to Greenville, whence it went on the celebrated raid in the Deer Creek Valley, returning again by the river to Milliken's Bend, from whence it started on the active campaign against Vicksburg, on the 2d of May, via Richmond, Louisiana, and Grand Gulf, Mississippi, to Jackson, where two days were spent in tearing up the railroad. Thence the Fourth moved on Vicksburg, arriving on the 8th, and commencing the memorable siege of that stronghold.

July 4 the regiment again started to Jackson, and there participated in what is known as the battle of Jackson. Returning, it went into camp on the 29th of July, on Black River, fourteen miles in rear of Vicksburg. The regiment lay in camp at this place until September 22, when it embarked on steamer and went to Memphis, where it landed and immediately set out on the campaign to Northern Georgia, via Corinth, Tuscumbia, Eastport, Iuka, and intermediate points to Chattanooga, where it arrived, after a long, weary march, on the 23d of November. It participated in the battle of Lookout Mountain on the 24th, and in the battle of Missionary Ridge on the 25th, and again in the battle of Ringgold, on the 27th.

December 3 the regiment went into camp at Bridgeport, Alabama, and moved from thence to Woodville, where it remained in camp until February 26, when it started home on veteran furlough. In April the regiment again left Iowa to return to the field; staid at Nashville a few days to get an outfit, and then started on the campaign against Atlanta, and only halted in line of battle until its arrival at East Point, Georgia, September 7, 1864, From this time on the Fourth was with Sherman's army in its memorable campaign before Atlanta, through Georgia and the Carolinas, and the final review in Washington. It was mustered out of service at Louisville, Kentucky, July 24, 1865, and paid, and disbanded at Davenport.

A few weeks before this, however, Colonel Williamson was made a Brigadier-General; and from an eloquent farewell address, made to his fellow soldiers in the Fourth, the following extract is taken:

"In taking leave of you, I deem it but right to briefly allude to our past association as soldiers. Four years ago we left our homes and loved ones to fight for the Union cause. Then we numbered 1,000 men. We were undisciplined and knew nothing of war, but we did know that our country needed our services, and that was enough. Since then we have had more than 300 added to our ranks. To-day our whole number is less than 400. Where are the 1,600 of our missing companions? Most

of them have fallen on the battle-fields from Pea Ridge to Columbia. Some have been discharged on account of wounds received in battle; but the saddest thing of all remains to be told—some were starved to death in Southern prison pens. An enemy claiming to be chivalrous and brave committed the dark, damnable deed of starving our brave men to death! God alone can avenge these 'murders most foul.' To us the work is not fully given. Human means are inadequate. You, the survivors of our glorious old regiment, will, I hope, very soon be permitted to go home and enter again upon the duties and assume the responsibilities of citizens of the Republic, and of yours, the young State of Iowa, for which you have helped to make so glorious a name during the war.

"It need not be said to men like you—who have fought on more than thirty different battle-fields; who, under Curtis won immortal honors at Pea Ridge, and made the memorable march through Missouri and Arkansas in mid-summer; who were ordered by General Grant to inscribe 'First at Chickasaw Bayou' on your banners; who were under Sherman at Chickasaw Bayou and Arkansas Post; who were under Grant through the entire campaign of Vicksburg, including Brandon; who marched from Vicksburg to Chattanooga under Sherman; who fought with Hooker above the clouds at Lookout Mountain, and were with him at Missionary Ridge and Ringgold; who were under Sherman through the entire Atlanta campaign, and participated in every battle, and who again, under your great leader, made the famous 'march to the ocean,' and thence to Washington—to be *good* citizens.

"Whatever may be said to the contrary, none can appreciate peace and civil government better than those who have so freely offered lives in war to secure these blessings."

TWENTY-THIRD MISSOURI INFANTRY.

In October, 1861, the following enlisted from Ringgold County in the Twenty-third Missouri Infantry: William M. Johnson, Thomas J. Cullison, James Johnson, Richard H. Alderson, Samuel P. Cullison, J. W. Crawford, Preston Crawford, Robert Hedges, Robert Johnson, Elias Kesler, William T. Martin, William Sneed, Abraham F. Walter, Andrew F. Walter, Peter F. Walter and Henry M. Whittier.

FOURTH CAVALRY, MISSOURI STATE MILITIA.

In February, 1862, there enlisted in the Fourth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, the following Ringgold men: Franklin Forrester, James Hankins, Thomas Edmond, John L. Cavett, Thomas Drake, Robert H. Drake, Henry Foster, James W. Glendenning and Francis M. Simpson.

TWENTY-NINTH IOWA INFANTRY.

August 9, 1862, Company G, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry was organized, though it was not mustered in until November 18, following. It was composed, with six exceptions, entirely of Ringgold volunteers. The following was the roster: Alexander Z. Huggins, Andrew Johnston, John McFarland, Isaac W. Keller, Charles W. Dake, John McGaughey, Henry C. Grim, Thomas J. Carman, George J. Nulph, Daniel W. Poor, Solomon B. Lesan, William E. Bennett, John D. Carter, George Mathews, William L. Carlile, John M. Poor, Thomas B. Poor, Noah Addington, James H. Armstrong, Sylvester H. Addington, Peter Agler, Davenson Amarine, Robert M. Armstrong, Hezekiah R. Armstrong, Parks Brittain, Charles Barton, William H. Bradley, Dempsey Brown, Jesse T. Bennett, Daniel L. Barker, Samuel H. Cling, David Cooper, James Conley, John Casteel, Joseph Crawford, William Casner, Jacob Davis, Walter Dunning, Daniel Dodge, Benjamin F. Day,

Henry Edinger, John B. Fishback, Henry Fraizer, James Fraizer, Heman C. Gray, Ariel Gleason, Benager Gustin, Bird Hagans, James W. Huff, John W. Huff, Elon I. Imus, Andrew I. Imus, Aaron S. Jones, Chaney L. Jones, Andrew R. Jordan, Alma Kent, Amos R. Long, William R. Moler, Elihu G. Martin, James Money, General S. Moore, John A. Miller, Miles D. Money, William A. Millsap, Samuel C. Nash, John E. Nulph, Thomas J. Nickles, William Nickles, Samuel Oliver, Russell Pealer, Aquilla D. Powers, John M. Parker, Alvan M. Poor, James H. Quinn, Thomas Ross, Jr., Charles Russell, Isaac Runyan, William Smith, Charles B. Sheldon, David D. Shepard, Robert W. M. Shafer, John Stoops, George W. Smith, Thomas W. Smith, John W. Smith, George C. Thompson, John B. Thompson, Daniel Turner, William D. Thrift, James W. Vandivere, James Walden, James H. Walker, Nathaniel P. Wright and William White.

There afterward enlisted in this company Jonathan C. Baker, Freeman W. Nash, Adam Been, Isaac Brown, William H. Chance, Andrew Hines, Samuel Jemison, Daniel R. Jones, Isaac Marshall, Henry H. Parsons, J. L. Terwilliger, Samuel Adamson, William Coons, Sylvester Conley, Ezra Conley, Rienza Conley, Samuel Coombs, Elijah Campbell, John H. Damon, Samuel Eaton, Nathan Fraizer, Abraham Jenkins, James W. Olvey, Vance Wilson and Pierce J. Wisdom.

Alexander Z. Huggins was the first Captain of the company; Andrew Johnston was First Lieutenant, and John McFarland Second Lieutenant. Johnston was afterward promoted to Captain, McFarland became First Lieutenant, and Isaac W. Keller was made Second Lieutenant.

The Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry was organized at Council Bluffs, and was composed of men residing on the Missouri slope. Colonel Thomas H. Benton, Jr., was its commanding officer. He received his commission as Colonel on the 10th day of August, 1862, and nearly all the men were enlisted, and the companies organized before the 1st of October; but owing to the distance of the rendezvous from railroad communication, the regiment was not mustered into the United States service until December 1, 1862. R. F. Patterson, Adjutant of the Fifth Iowa Infantry, was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel; C. B. Shoemaker, of Page County, Major; Joseph Lyman, Corporal Company E, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, Adjutant; W. W. Wilson, of Pottawattamie County, Quartermaster; W. S. Grimes, Assistant Surgeon Fourth Iowa Infantry, Surgeon; N. L. Nicholson, of Webster County, and David F. Aiken, of Mills County, Assistant Surgeons; and the Rev. J. M. Conrad, Chaplain.

It had been intended that this regiment should form part of the command, which, under General W. T. Sherman, made the assault upon the works at Vicksburg, in December, 1862; but before it was mustered into the United States service, the navigation of the Missouri River was closed, and this object was abandoned. The regiment marched by detachments, between the 5th and 9th of December, 1862, to St. Joseph, Missouri, and reported by telegraph to Major-General S. R. Curtis, commanding Department of Missouri. Thence it proceeded by rail to St. Louis, and entered Benton Barracks on the 20th of December, 900 strong, all in good health and spirits. The next day the regiment went to Schofield Barracks, in the city, and was assigned to the duty of guarding the various military prisons. It remained here but a few days.

On Christmas day it embarked under orders to proceed to Helena, Arkansas, reporting for temporary duty at Columbus, Kentucky, which place was at that time threatened with an attack. Lieutenant-

Colonel Patterson now assumed command, Colonel Benton remaining at St. Louis, for the purpose of transacting certain business connected with the regiment.

Arriving at Columbus, it was assigned to the right wing, under Brigadier-General J. M. Tuttle. On the 8th of January, it proceeded on its way to Helena, having been assigned to a brigade commanded by Brigadier-General C. B. Fisk. The command did not disembark at Helena, but immediately received orders to join an expedition then organized by General Gorman to go up White River. This expedition resulted in no good to anybody, but on the contrary, was the cause of much suffering to the troops.

When the regiment returned to Helena, on the 26th of January, it had been 180 miles up the White River to Du Vall's Bluff and back, without disembarking. In the meantime, it had been attacked with the measles, and had over 400 men on the sick list. As a consequence of the exposure upon this trip, the regiment lost no less than 200 men. From this time forward, however, the health of the regiment was uniformly good.

The Twenty-ninth formed part of the memorable expedition through the Yazoo Pass, and Cold Water and Tallahatchie rivers, to Fort Pemberton, at the head of Yazoo River, in March and April, 1863. It embarked at Helena on the steamer, Emma No. 2, but on reaching the Cold Water River, the vessel was found to be so badly injured as to render it necessary to abandon her, and the regiment was transferred to the Key West, on which vessel it made the voyage to the fort and back to Helena.

From this time until the Little Rock expedition, it remained at Helena, performing ordinary garrison duty, except when absent on scouts.

It bore a glorious part in the battle of Helena, Arkansas, on the anniversary of our national independence, whipping an entire brigade, and capturing many prisoners. General Samuel A. Rice, in his report of this battle, gives high praise to the Twenty-ninth Iowa for its part in this engagement, mentioning especially Colonel Benton, Lieutenant-Colonel Patterson and Major Shoemaker. The regiment lost in this engagement thirty-one killed and wounded.

Between the 11th of August and the 10th of September of this year, the army, under command of General Steele, marched from Helena to Little Rock. The weather was excessively hot and dry. The command halted one week at Clarendon, at which point the White River was crossed. Thence the route lay up that stream as far as Du Vall's Bluff, at the crossing of the Memphis & Little Rock Railroad, where a depot of supplies and a hospital were established.

The Twenty-ninth was attached to a division, commanded by General Samuel A. Rice, the brigade being under command of Colonel Benton. There was nothing worthy of note between Du Vall's Bluff and Brownsville, except the exceeding difficulty of the march. Almost the entire way is occupied by Grand Prairie, which is entirely destitute of water. Each man carried a supply in his canteen. Many were sun-struck on the march, and it was impossible to get all the sick into the ambulances. The ambulances would be loaded up and drive ahead of the column as far as it was safe to go, leave their burdens by the road-side and return for others. In this way those unable to walk, were, by turns, conveyed in ambulances, and left to suffer under a boiling sun for the greater portion of two days. During a halt of a few days at Brownsville, General Rice's division made a rapid march to Bayou Metoe, to cover a movement of General Davidson's cavalry in another direction. Both commands, having skir-

mished with the enemy, soon returned to the main army.

Price commanded at Little Rock and occupied a strong position four miles from the city, his right being protected by the Arkansas River, and his left by an impenetrable cypress swamp. General Steele determined to turn his position; therefore, leaving the direct route, he struck the Arkansas River eight miles below Little Rock. Here a pontoon-bridge was thrown across the river, and on the morning of September 10, the cavalry division crossed to the south side, and moved rapidly on the enemy. The infantry continued its march up the north bank, momentarily expecting a general engagement. The enemy, however, offered no resistance, except to the left wing, which was assisted by the artillery from the north bank. Davidson continued his march with more or less resistance until evening, when he entered the city, Price having retreated before an army vastly inferior to his own in numbers, in such haste as to leave the arsenal, etc., in a good state of preservation. The infantry remained on the north side of the river until the next day, when the army encamped round the city.

In November General Rice was sent out with the brigade to which the Twenty-ninth Iowa was attached, to endeavor to intercept Marmaduke, who had been repulsed in an attack upon Pine Bluff with heavy loss. The command marched as far as Rockport, on the Washita River, but did not succeed in overtaking the rebel trooper. This ended the active campaigning of the regiment for the year.

It remained at Little Rock during the winter of 1863-'4, and until General Steele's column moved to the Southwest, on the morning of March 23, 1864. The object of this expedition was to co-operate with Banks, who was moving up Red River.

On the return of the army to Little Rock, a reorganization was effected, and the Twenty-ninth was assigned to the First Brigade of the First Division. It was soon afterward transferred to the Second Brigade, Second Division, where it remained until the end of the year.

The regiment remained at Little Rock nearly a year after the Camden campaign, except about one month (from the latter part of July to the latter part of August), when it was stationed at Lewisburg, on the Arkansas, fifty miles above Little Rock. In November, of the same year, it was ordered to move to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, but the order was countermanded, and the regiment was assigned to duty as City Guard of the post of Little Rock, which duty it continued to perform until its departure for other fields of operation.

When General J. J. Reynolds assumed command of the Department of Arkansas there was another reorganization of the army. The Twenty-ninth was assigned to an organization known as the "Detached Brigade of the Seventh Army Corps," Brigadier-General E. A. Carr commanding. About the 1st of February, General Carr received orders to proceed to New Orleans, but owing to the want of transportation, this regiment did not march until the 9th.

After a tedious voyage the regiment reached New Orleans, one wing, under command of Colonel Benton, on the 14th, and the other under Adjutant Lyman, two days after. The regiment was quartered in an old foundry at Algiers, opposite the "Crescent City." On the 20th the regiment moved by rail to Lakeport, on Lake Ponchartrain, and thence by steamer to Mobile Point, Alabama. The vessel ran aground in Grant's Pass, and the troops were transferred to another steamer. They were disembarked on the 23d, and without tents or baggage, went into bivouack on the sands at Navy Cove, three miles in rear of Fort Morgan.

The preparations for the Mobile campaign at once began. On the 17th of March the army began its toilsome and difficult march on Mobile. On the 25th it found itself under the guns of Spanish Fort, and at once began the investment of that fortification. It is unnecessary to say more, than that in this campaign, both on the march and during the siege, the Twenty-ninth bore its full part, and in no way diminished the unsurpassed reputation of the Iowa soldiery. Its loss during the campaign was twenty-two men.

After the capture of Spanish Fort, which took place on the 9th of April, the regiment marched to the assistance of General Steele, who was investing Fort Blakely, another of the defenses of Mobile, five miles above Spanish Fort. The command arrived just in time to witness one of the most brilliant and successful charges of the war, the assault of General Steele's command on the works at Fort Blakely, on the evening of Sunday, April 9, 1865.

On the 12th the regiment entered Mobile, and the next day marched with the division to which it was attached under orders to proceed to Mount Vernon arsenal, on the Tombigbee River, forty miles above Mobile. On its way thither it had a lively skirmish with the enemy, the last in which the regiment was engaged, and among the last of the war.

On the 22d Colonel Benton assumed command of the arsenal, his regiment forming the garrison. On the retreat of the rebel forces much of the property belonging to the Government had been destroyed, and much more carried away by the neighboring inhabitants. Hence the arsenal, once one of the most pleasant and beautiful pieces of property owned by the Government, was found by Colonel Benton in a dilapidated condition. He immediately set to work to renovate it, as far as possible, and succeeded in restoring it to much of its former beauty. The regiment returned to Mobile on the 12th of May.

On the 1st of June part of the regiment sailed for Texas, and arrived at Brazos Santiago on the 9th, where the rest of the command joined it in a few days.

When General Sheridan assumed command of the Military Division of the Gulf, he directed the immediate muster-out of the Twenty-ninth Iowa. Consequently the regiment sailed for New Orleans in the latter part of July, and on the 10th of the following month was honorably discharged from the service, and ordered to Davenport, Iowa, for final payment and disbandment.

It arrived at Davenport on the 19th, and then numbered 765, officers and enlisted men. Of these only 415 were originally attached to the Twenty-ninth. The remainder were recruits of the Nineteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-third Iowa regiments, which had been assigned to Colonel Benton's command a few weeks previous, when these regiments returned home for disbandment. On the 25th of August, 1865, the Twenty-ninth was disbanded, and its members dispersed to their several homes in the Far West.

The regiment was unfortunate in being kept so long in the Department of the Arkansas, away from the more brilliant fields of action. It was one of the best disciplined regiments in the army, never shrank from any duty required of it, and only needed the opportunity to make a record equal to that of any Iowa regiment. The Twenty-ninth never tarnished the fame of Iowa troops.

Colonel Benton was a brave, high-minded, and intelligent officer, and exerted a fine influence over the men of his command. Lieutenant-Colonel Patterson had few superiors as a commander among the field officers of the army. In the opinion of the writer, one star at least, should have honored his shoulder. That he drilled and

disciplined the regiment to a high degree of efficiency is evidenced by the favorable reports of various inspectors. The staff and line officers labored zealously to promote the efficiency of the command, and there was ever a ready and cheerful submission to discipline on the part of the entire regiment, hence, at Helena, Terre Noire, Elkin's Ford, Prairie d'Anne, Camden, Jenkins' Ferry, Mobile and on every other occasion where it had been called upon to meet the enemy, it responded with a degree of alacrity, soldierly skill and courage unsurpassed by the troops of any of the armies that have borne a part in the great struggle for the Union.

SOUTHERN BORDER BRIGADE.

The General Assembly, at the extra session of 1862, with almost entire unanimity directed the organization of the Northern and Southern border brigades. The former, numbering 250, was a precaution against Indian disturbances, and the latter, numbering 794, was raised to protect the State from incursions from lawless citizens of Missouri. Company C, Third Battalion, was a Ringgold County organization, Nathan Miller being Captain, and Harvey Waugh, First Lieutenant. Ten men were kept on duty patrolling the southern border of the county, and these were relieved every ten days. This was kept up for three months. No disturbances worthy of record occurred. Many of the members afterward entered the active military service.

EIGHTH IOWA CAVALRY.

This regiment was raised in Southern Iowa in the summer of 1863, and Company D included the following from Ringgold County: Lovena Hopkins (formerly First Lieutenant and subsequently Captain of Company G, Fourth Infantry), John H. Huff, Thomas M. Gregory, William V. Culver, William S. Smith, Ross McKendree, John Mordecai, Henry C. Andrews, William R. Abarr, John Bear, James A. Benson, John Boyer, Elijah Conley, William Conley, John C. Hunter, Orlando Kirkham, Rodolphus Kirkham, Benjamin Keller, G. M. D. Morrison, William A. McMullen, Giles J. Nobles, B. F. Ruby, Addison S. Ruby, Thomas Shey, T. P. Trask, Cornelius B. Trask, Jesse H. Thompson, Benjamin A. Wiley and Peter Weeks.

The Eighth Cavalry was organized at Davenport, and October 17, 1863, left the State by railroad for Chattanooga, Tennessee, to report to Major-General Rosecrans. Before reaching there, however, Major-General Thomas had succeeded Rosecrans, and the regiment was assigned to duty on the Nashville & Northwestern Railroad. For some time it was busied in clearing that region of the guerrillas under Colonel Hawkins, in which it met with gratifying success. During the first part of 1864 the Eighth Cavalry was engaged in the usual duties of cavalry organizations—in scattered guard duty, in minor raids, and in police duty. During the summer and autumn, however, it joined in the extensive operations around Atlanta, in which it saw about as hard and continuous service as fell to the lot of any command in the same time. Besides skirmishes, it took part in fifteen engagements, the casualties amounting to 168, not including over 200 men and officers taken prisoners. Similar duty occupied the regiment during the first half of 1865, and the Eighth was mustered out at Macon, Georgia, August 13, 1865.

FORTY-SIXTH IOWA INFANTRY.

This was a 100-days regiment, raised in May, 1864. Company E, which was made up principally of Linn County volunteers, contained the following from Ringgold:

William Calvin, Benjamin H. Rush, William White, George W. Myers, Will-

iam Q. Lucas, James Andrews, Adam Beal, Ira M. Cooper, Henry F. Jacoby, William T. Laughlin, Joseph F. Ledgerwood, Samuel McFarland, Samuel McCord, James B. Nobles, Christopher Platner, Valentine G. Ruby, Joseph H. Ruby, Isaiah Skinner, John Schlapia, David Thompson and Joseph Whitmer.

The following history of the Forty-sixth is from the pen of its Colonel, D. B. Henderson, now a member of Congress from Iowa:

"The Forty-Sixth Iowa Infantry was organized at Davenport, Iowa, and mustered into the United States service on the 10th day of June, 1864, to serve for the term of one hundred days.

"On the 11th of June, the regiment was armed and clothed, and on the 14th we took the cars for Cairo, Illinois, at which place we arrived on the 15th. Immediately upon my arrival in Cairo, I dispatched a letter to Major-General Washburn, commanding at Memphis, and on the morning of the 17th of June, I received orders from General Washburn to report with my regiment at Memphis.

"On the evening of the 17th of June, I embarked the regiment upon the John D. Perry, and arrived in Memphis on the morning of the 20th, when I was ordered into camp two miles east of the city. We remained in camp at Memphis until the 27th, performing heavy picket duty during that time. On the morning of the 27th of June, I was ordered to move my regiment to Colliersville, Tennessee, take command of that post, and throw out detachments east and west on the railroad, and was also ordered to guard the railroad against the interference of the rebels who had recently been firing upon the trains in the vicinity of Colliersville.

"On the 28th of June, I sent Lieutenant-Colonel L. D. Durbin, with two companies—A and I, Captains Guilbert and Wolf, to Camp Look Out, a post three miles west of Colliersville, and situated on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad. On the same day, Major George L. Torbert, with Companies E and K, Captains Harrison and Palmer, moved to Camp Henderson, two and a half miles east of Colliersville. Both of these detachments performed their duties faithfully, and not another train was disturbed while they guarded these posts. While the regiment was stationed at Colliersville and outposts, the men performed very heavy picket duty, being upon guard each alternate day. I partly compensated the men for this by inaugurating a generous system of foraging.

"The enemy did not disturb us but once during the two months that we were stationed at Colliersville. The event that I allude to occurred about the middle of August. Lieutenant-Colonel Durbin was informed that a band of guerrillas had captured two men of the Sixth Illinois Cavalry near his camp. He promptly sent out Captain Wolf with sixteen men, to relieve the prisoners if possible. When about a mile from camp, the party was fired upon by some thirty guerrillas lying in ambuscade, and Captain Wolf and three of his men were brought down at the first volley, the Captain and one man seriously wounded; the others slightly. The men returned the fire, killing one and wounding three of the rebels. The Captain having been shot and supposed to be killed, and being outnumbered two to one the men retreated to camp.

"On the 1st of September we were ordered to Memphis, where we remained until the 10th, when we were ordered to embark on the Golden Era for Cairo, at which place we arrived on the 14th of September. Taking the cars the same day, we started for Davenport, Iowa.

"On the evening of the 16th of September we reached Davenport, at which place

we were mustered out and paid off on the 23d of September, 1865."

THE VETERANS.

For four years and more the notes of the fife and drum and bugle and the tramp of armed hosts were continually heard, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Gulf of Mexico to British North America, and the clash of arms was borne northward on every breeze from the sunny but blood-drenched plains of the south. For four years and more "grim-visaged war" had waved its crimson banners over the fair fabric the fathers had erected, in a vain endeavor to hurl it from its foundations. In this terrible and gigantic struggle, Ringgold County had borne its full part, and many a brave volunteer from its beautiful prairies had lain down his life on the battle-field, or starved to death in the rebel slaughter pens of Andersonville and Macon.

But now Sherman and his "brave boys in blue" had made their memorable and historic march to the sea, Lee had surrendered to the victorious Army of the Union under Grant, the war was ended, peace restored, the Union preserved in its integrity, and the patriotic sons of Ringgold County who were spared to witness the final victory of the armies of the Union returned to their homes to receive grand ovations and tributes of honor from friends and neighbors who had eagerly and jealously and anxiously watched and followed them wherever the varying fortunes of war had called them.

Exchanging their soldiers' uniforms for citizens' dress, most of them fell back to their old vocations, on the farm, in the mines, at the forge, the bench, in the shop, in the office, or at whatever else their hands found to do. Their noble deeds in the hour of their country's peril are now, and always will be, dear to the hearts of the people whom they so faithfully served. Brave men are always honored, and no class of citizens are entitled to greater respect than the brave volunteers of Ringgold County, not simply because they were soldiers, but because, in their association with their fellow men, their walk is upright, and their character and honesty without reproach.

"Their country first, their glory and their pride;
Land of their hopes—land where their fathers died;
When in the right, they'll keep their honor bright;
When in the wrong, they'll die to set it right."

The wondrous deeds of daring and glorious achievements of the Army of the Union during the war of the Rebellion will always be cherished by all patriotic hearts. But there are scenes, incidents and accidents the memory of which will shade with sadness the bright reflections engendered by the contemplation of a heroism, devotion and sacrifice the like of which the world never saw before. But the memory of those who fell in the stupendous struggle is still familiar to the present people of Ringgold County; and fifty years hence, when the fathers and mothers of today shall have passed on to their eternal home, they will be remembered by posterity more as matters of tradition than as absolute written history.

THE PRESS.

WITH the exception of the public schools, there is no agency so educational as the local press. Journalism itself has passed through several stages of development, and has but recently found its true position. A paper of the style of those published thirty years ago would now have but few admirers. Local news was then not thought worthy of being printed, and the county press was filled with learned disquisitions on national politics and foreign wars. Now these things are wisely left to the more widely circulated city papers, which are by fast mail trains distributed throughout the West on the same day with their publication. Ringgold County takes many hundred papers each week from Chicago, DesMoines, St. Joseph and other cities, and also supports four weekly papers of its own. These are all edited with more than average ability, and all have a good circulation.

The first newspaper published in the county was the

MOUNT AYR REPUBLICAN,

which was established in the spring of 1861, by P. O. James, as publisher, and George Burton as editor. It was continued only about six months, when both publisher and editor entered the military service, the former as a private; the latter as a Captain.

Ringgold County was then without a local paper until April, 1865, when the

RINGGOLD RECORD

was established, with Warren R. Turk as publisher, and Ith S. Beall as editor. They were succeeded about the first of June, 1866, by George H. Roby, as editor and publisher, by whom it was sold to D. D. Pratt, in June, 1870. In 1876 it was bought by George R. Stephens, the present owner and editor. The *Record* is a newsy, enterprising Republican sheet of four pages, eight columns to the page, published weekly, and enjoys a prosperous and liberal patronage. It is published on Thursdays.

THE MOUNT AYR JOURNAL

was founded in 1873, by C. C. Bartruff, from Creston. This was the first attempt at Democratic journalism in Ringgold County. Bartruff published the paper for ten years, changing its name to the *Free Press*, in the meantime. In 1883 the office passed into the hands of J. W. Burly, who restored the former name. In November, 1885, J. S. Shepherd, the present proprietor and editor took charge. The *Journal*

is published on Thursdays, and is a paper of considerable influence, being the organ of the Democracy of Ringgold County.

THE HEADLIGHT

was established in 1877 by a stock company, and published for a year or so, chiefly to arouse interest in the north and south narrow-gauge railroad which was then proposed. The *Headlight* was succeeded by

ONWARD,

in 1878, and this paper was published for seven years, as a Republican sheet. It changed hands very often, and died in December, 1884.

THE RINGGOLD COUNTY REPUBLICAN

was established July 16, 1885, by Messrs. Wisdom & Williams. The former retired at the close of the first volume, and Rev. J. H. Tedford became a partner. The firm is now Williams & Tedford. The *Republican* has a good following among the people of Ringgold and adjoining counties. It is an eight-column folio, published on Thursdays, at $1.00 per year.

THE KELLERTON MENTOR

was established in 1881, by Kendall Brothers, as a Republican paper, six-column folio in size. In 1882, George R. Stephens, of the *Ringgold County Record*, became proprietor, and a year later he suspended its publication. Soon after, B. W. and F. W. Richards came here from Lucas, Lucas County, and started the

KELLERTON INDEPENDENT.

This was independent in politics, and lived nearly two years before going the way of its predecessor. Kellerton is now without a paper.

THE REDDING REPORTER

was the first journalistic venture at the village of Redding. F. M. Wisdom was the editor and owner, and 1885 the date. In a few months the *Reporter* was discontinued. In December of the same year Burrell & Noble issued the first number of the

REDDING INDEPENDENT.

S. G. Burrell was afterward sole proprietor, and Clayburg Brothers were the owners when publication was suspended, in the summer of 1886. The *Independent* was true to its name, in politics, and was published on Thursdays, at the rate of $1.50 per year. The

TINGLEY TIMES

was started by J. Gettinger, in 1882. He sold to L. O. McKinley, and he to Ray Brothers. In the meantime the name was changed to the

NEWS.

Then one Noah became owner, and moved the office to Wirt. Tingley was then without a paper until July, 1885, when the

BATTLE AXE

was swung over the heads of the inhabitants, by E. B. Garretson, of Lenox. The *Axe* ceased to swing in December following. J. J. Clark, of Gravity, published the

INDEPENDENT

for six months, in 1886, and then this paper went the way of its predecessors. The *Independent* was a six-column paper, $1.50 per year, and was a valuable factor in the business of the place. Mr. Noah, above mentioned, issued the

WIRT WASP

regularly for six months, and then went to Nebraska. He sold to John Abrams, who changed the name to the

NEWS.

This afterward passed into the hands of John Thrall, who suspended publication in 1884, and Wirt now depends upon Chicago for its news.

PROFESSIONAL.

THE BAR.

THE biographies of the present members of the bar are given in the biographical portion of this work, and in this place it is only designed to mention them, and also those attorneys who have died or removed. Most of these, of course, were residents of

MOUNT AYR.

Thomas M. Bowen came to this point in 1857, from Corydon, and remained about three years. Though married, he was quite a young man. Corydon was his first location as a lawyer. He was recognized as a shrewd man, and in some degree gave promise of the reputation for the "scheming" ability that he now possesses. He went from here to Nebraska. There he entered the volunteer army, in which he became a Brigadier-General. After the war he located at Little Rock, Arkansas, where he became a supreme judge. Thence he went to Colorado, from which State he was elected to the United States Senate, in 1883. He is reputed to have made great wealth out of silver. In politics he is a Republican.

A man by the name of Marsh came here from Ohio in 1858, and remained two years. He was taken sick, and returned to Ohio, where he died.

John A. Miller came about the same time, from Indiana. He practiced until 1862, and then enlisted in Company G, Twenty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was killed at Terranoir Creek, Arkansas. In political inclination he was a Democrat.

Ezra C. Miller, his brother, also came here in 1858. In June, 1861, he enlisted in Company G, Fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was promoted to First Lieutenant, and while holding that rank was killed at Chickasaw Bayou, near Vicksburg, in 1863. In politics he was a Republican.

Isaac W. Keller came to the county in 1855, but did not commence the practice of law for five years. He enlisted in 1862 and served three years, attaining the rank of Second Lieutenant. He served as county judge one term before and one after his military service. He was then elected Senator for one term of four years. From 1870 to 1873 he was engaged in farming near Eugene, and in 1879 began another four-years' term as Senator. In 1884 he was chosen justice of the peace, which office he now holds. With these numerous

exceptions, he has practiced law since 1869. He is a Republican.

W. T. Laughlin has now been in continuous practice for twenty-five years, at Mt. Ayr, and stands high in the profession. He was district attorney one term, but resigned before the expiration of the same. He was a Republican until recently, and now is a Democrat.

R. C. Henry located here after the war, and has been in continuous practice since, except three years, while district judge. Previous to this, he was for a time recorder, by appointment. He is at this writing candidate on the Republican ticket for district judge.

Robert F. Askren has been in practice for eleven years. He has been county superintendent two terms, auditor one term, and is now Republican candidate for county attorney.

John W. Warner came here from Leon about 1870, and farmed and practiced law for two or three years. He then returned to Leon, and afterward moved to Coloardo.

C. D. Morris came here from Decatur County, in 1872, and was engaged in the real-estate business and the practice of law until the summer of 1886, when he removed to Denver, Colorado. He was a Republican.

Jacob F. Mount came from Indiana in 1868, and after teaching school a year or two began the practice of law, which he has since followed. He served one term on the Board of Supervisors, under the old system. He was at that time a Republican, but now votes the Democratic ticket.

R. H. Spence took a course of law at the State University, and commenced practice with R. F. Askren. He was successively in partnership with Ezra C. McMasters, Isaac W. Keller and R. C. Henry, with whom he is now associated.

Ezra C. McMasters read law with Askren and Spence, and was admitted here. His business is principally loaning and note-brokering.

M. A. Campbell read law with W. T. Laughlin, and has now been in practice ten years. John Scott, the present mayor of Mt. Ayr, has been in practice since 1876; J. W. Brockett since 1879, and F. F. Leathers since 1880.

OTHER VILLAGES.

W. K. Brown located at Kellerton in 1880, and has been in practice since. He has been a resident of Ringgold County for seventeen years, and read law at Leon.

George Spence was at Redding for two or three years, and in 1884 moved to Dakota.

J. E. Ray located at Tingley in 1883, and practiced a year or so, then went to the western part of the State.

L. O. McKinley, of Tingley, practices in justices' courts.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

The members of the profession of medicine who are now practicing are given full biographical mention in the main portion of this work, and in this chapter it is proposed to make some record of those who were once well known as physicians in Ringgold County, but are dead or living in other localities. The first physician of the county was Alexander McCartney, who lived three miles southwest of where Mt. Ayr is, as early as 1853. He farmed, and did what little doctoring was required by the sparsely-settled community of that period.

MOUNT AYR.

The first physician here was E. Keith, who came in 1856. He was a good doctor. He was here ten years, and then removed to Mason County, Missouri, where he died.

Dr. Pres ley came in 1857 or 1858, and left during the war.

Alexander Z. Huggins came to Mt. Ayr shortly before the war. He enlisted in the Twenty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and became Captain of Company G. His health failed him, however, and he resigned and returned home, where he resumed his practice. He was a representative to the General Assembly, in 1864. In 1866 he died. Dr. Kackley was here a year and a half during the war, after which he settled in Missouri. Dr. Stephenson was here one year during the war.

The oldest physician at Mt. Ayr is John T. Merrill, but he has retired from practice. He located at Ringgold City, on the State line, ten miles south of Mt. Ayr, in 1856, and came to Mt. Ayr in 1866, practicing here until 1880. Much of his time, however, was given to banking. He is now a druggist.

D. F. Sellards graduated at Rush Medical College, in Chicago, in February, 1866, having previously studied with Dr. Huggins, and then located permanently at Mt. Ayr, where he practiced until his death, in 1879. He was a good physician. His widow and three sons live at Mt. Ayr.

William Horne, from Monmouth, Illinois, came to this place in February, 1869, and has practiced continuously since. Bird Hagans, a son of Judge James C. Hagans, the first county judge, studied with Dr. Merrill, was admitted in 1871, and practiced a few years. He labored under the serious disadvantage of poor health, however, and died at Mt. Ayr. He had no diploma, having attended but one course of lectures. Had health permitted, he would have completed his professional training and made a most useful member of the fraternity. His widow lives ten miles south of Mt. Ayr. J. W. Campbell came to this place in the spring of 1871, originally from Florida, but directly from Missouri. His family had preceded him here several years. He practiced with Dr. Horne three years, spent one summer in Nebraska, returned, and with Dr. Horne ran a drug store for three years. He then resumed the exclusive practice of his profession. In the autumn of 1886 he removed to Ottumwa, intending to make a specialty of the eye.

A physician named Calkins came from Illinois in the spring of 1871 and practiced until his death, a few years later. A. J. Willey came here from Osceola in 1872. He had been Surgeon of the Tenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry during the war. He practiced here until 1882 since which date he has been in Nebraska. Frank Cornwall was here several years, and is now in San Francisco. J. H. White, C. B. White and S. Bailey have located at Mt. Ayr in the last few years, and are now in practice.

AT OTHER PLACES.

At Kellerton L. P. Thayer was the first physician. He remained three years and then went to Davis County. Dr. Jewett was here one year and then went to Missouri. A. and M. Camp, brothers, have been here since 1880. R. Tripp was here several years and is now in Jasper County. W. L. Gleason has been here since 1884.

Thomas Kenworthy lived on the site of Redding before a village was proposed at that point. He moved to Oregon in 1881. H. C. Dukes was here a year and moved to Clarke County. Dr. McLean was here a year and then moved to Missouri. The present practitioners are A. E. King, Thomas H. Humphrey and W. E. Lawhead.

L. E. St. John was the first physician at Tingley. He remained two years and then went West. James Nichols and R. W. Selby are now in practice at this point.

The first physician at Wirt was named Lloyd. He remained a year or so, and then went to Dakota. Rev. F. S. Lock came in 1882, and practices medicine and preaches the gospel. J. P. Maxwell is also in practice. He succeeded Lloyd.

UNDER this not very specific heading will be treated the subjects of education, agriculture, public buildings, railroads and statistics of population.

EDUCATIONAL.

The pioneers of Ringgold County brought with them an abiding faith in free schools. Each settlement, as soon as populous enough to support one, built a house and established a neighborhood school, and in time organized districts of suitable size. These were larger when the county was sparsely settled, but now are generally four square miles in size, the school-house being in the center, or at the corner of the four sections. The public schools were under the supervision of the school-fund commissioners until 1858, which office was superseded under the new Constitution by thatof county superintendent of schools.

No college, academy, or select school has ever existed in the county, the school system consisting simply of the common district school in the country, and the graded school in the villages.

The best idea of the progress that has been made, and the present condition of the schools of the county, may be obtained from the following summary of the last published report, for 1884:

There are in the county thirteen district townships; thirty-three independent districts, and 100 sub-districts. The ungraded schools number 133, and there are nine rooms in the graded schools. The average duration of school is 6.7 months in each year, which is a little less than the average for the whole State. Sixty-seven male teachers and 162 female teachers are employed, at average compensations of $34.45, and $26.35 per month respectively.

The number of males between five and twenty-one years of age is 2,493; females, 2,424; enrollment in public school, 1,616; average attendance, 1,082; average cost of tuition per month, per pupil, $1.82; value of school-houses, $55,980. The amount paid for school-houses and sites during the year was $2,478.77; paid for teachers, $29,515.

The school fund loaned in Ringgold County amounts to $33,843.70. This is loaned to farmers on mortgage, at eight per cent. There have been no losses of consequence since 1874. In that year the losses reported were $1,221.62, and the previous

year $446.37 was lost. The fund amounted, in 1874, to $25,285.10, and the county then had unsold, 240 acres of land. It now has 120 acres. The greater part of the increase in the fund is due to transfers from other counties, which have been made as follows:

Tama County, $1,000, June 1, 1880; Mahaska County, $1,000, August 16, 1880; Cass County, $1,000, December 23, 1881; Linn County, $1,000, March 16, 1882; Cass County, $1,000, May 30, 1882; Black Hawk County, $2,000, November 29, 1882. Total, $7,000. The natural increase of the fund, from sales of lands, escheated estates, etc., is very slow.

AGRICULTURAL.

No ponds of stagnant water or wet, marshy land are found in Ringgold County, and it is particularly well adapted to agricultural purposes. The soil is the common deep, rich, drift soil characteristic of Southern Iowa, capable of producing abundant crops of all products adapted to the climate of that latitude, of corn especially. The native grasses formerly yielded large crops, but as population increased have been gradually superseded, to a large extent, by the tame grasses which are propagated easily and thrive abundantly. Timothy, clover and blue grass are extensively cultivated. This has become a prosperous and prominent stock-raising county, including cattle, horses, mules, sheep and hogs. Of late years considerable attention has been given to fruit-growing, with excellent success. Apples, pears, cherries and all the small fruits thrive with proper cultivation. Grapes may be produced in great abundance.

The great rural industry, however, is stock-raising. There is no finer region for stock anywhere, and more and more attention is given to it every year. Prophets are not wanting who say that this is to become entirely a stock country. That certainly seems to be the tendency, and the small farms are disappearing before the large stock-growers. The population will not increase if this continues to be the rule. The following statistics are from the State census, prepared in 1885, and apply to the year 1884:

Average size of farm, 125 acres; acres improved land, 206,391; acres in cultivation, 135,873; acres unimproved land, 82,834; acres of pasture, 55,267; rods of hedge, 224,794; rods of barbed-wire fence, 667,052; rods of other fence, 187,181; farms managed by owner, 1,492; farms under manager, 19; farms rented for share of crop, 103; farms rented for money, 302; acres of corn, 63,641; bushels of corn, 2,212,060; acres of wheat, 680; bushels of wheat, 6,252; acres of oats, 30,812; bushels of oats, 667,515; tons of straw, 13,953; acres of rye, 120; bushels of rye, 11,754; tons of straw, 798; acres of barley, 27; bushels of barley, 228; acres of buckwheat, 457; bushels of buckwheat, 5,170; acres of sorghum, 671; gallons of sorghum syrup, 45,192; acres of potatoes, 910; bushels of potatoes, 80,771; acres of planted timber, 1,015; acres of natural timber, 19,627; cords of wood cut in 1884, 10,828; apple trees, bearing, 60,458; bushels of apples, 47,704; other trees, bearing, 12,628; bushels of other fruit, 2,499; trees not bearing, 68,046; acres in timothy, 46,526; tons of hay, 44,986; bushels of seed, 5,858; tons of hay from wild grass, 8,240; acres in other cultivated grasses, 3,730; tons of hay, 6,871; bushels of seed, 4,844; acres of flax, 1,880; bushels of seed, 8,720; thorough-bred cattle, 288; graded, 1,431; work oxen, 3; milch cows, 8,166; other cattle, 20,285; horses, 8,507; mules and asses, 596; hogs, 36,679; sheep, 3,649; pounds of wool, 16,186; common chickens, 86,818; improved chickens 10,082; average value of farms, $4,135.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

As early as 1859, Ringgold County organized an agricultural society. On the 18th of June of that year a formal organization was completed, with the following board of officers: I. W. Keller, President; E. Sheldon, Vice-President; A. Z. Huggins, Secretary; and J. C. Hagans, Treasurer. Eight directors were also elected. The first annual fair was held October 14, 1859. The society purchased a beautiful forty-acre tract of land about one mile northeast of Mt. Ayr, on which they located their fair grounds, and have made good improvements. The property is valued at $1,500, and the society is in debt just about that amount. For the last five years the society has paid its premiums in full, without reference to the ratio of receipts to expenses. The hall, 24 x 130 feet, is usually crowded with machinery, produce, etc. The customary races and other features usually found at county fairs are sustained.

The constitution of the society is as follows:

ARTICLE I. This society shall be known as the Ringgold County Farmers' and Mechanics' Agricultural Society, having for its object the dissemination of all useful knowledge applicable to agriculture, horticulture, mechanism, the arts, rural and domestic economy, and all industrial pursuits connected therewith.

ART. II. The officers of this society shall consist of a president, secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, and executive committee of three members, and a board of five directors—three of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ART. III. The annual meeting for the election of officers, who shall serve for one year, shall be held in Mt. Ayr, Iowa, on the last Saturday in December of each year. Any vacancy that may occur, may be filled by the Board of Directors until the next regular election.

ART. IV. The officers elected as above shall assume their duties on the first Monday of January following, and it shall be incumbent on the retiring Board to settle up the business of the year, and shall have the time above specified to perform that duty.

ART. V. The duties of the president and vice-president shall be such as are usually attached to such offices.

ART. VI. The secretary shall keep a faithful record of all the proceedings of the society and the Board of Directors, and shall attend, with all his records and papers at all regular meetings of the society and its annual fairs.

ART. VII. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all moneys due the society, and pay them out on the order of the president, countersigned by the secretary, and he shall execute a bond to be approved by the Board of Directors, for the faithful performance of his duties, and to pay over all moneys, property and effects in his hands at the expiration of his term of office. He shall keep a regular account current with the secretary, and render an abstract thereof to the executive committee, and report the financial condition of the society at its annual meeting. He shall also attend all regular meetings of the society and its annual fairs.

ART. VIII. It shall be the duty of the corresponding secretary to respond to all letters of inquiry concerning the society, and render such assistance to the Secretary as may be required.

ART. IX. The president, secretary and treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Directors, and said board shall have power to make all necessary prudential rules and regulations for the government of this society, to all its practical and beneficial operations; to call spe-

cial meetings of the society and board; to designate premiums to be awarded at the fairs, and to appoint committees—not appointed by the society at its annual meeting—necessary to carry out the objects of the society, and shall perform such other duties as properly belong to such bodies.

ART. X. It shall be the duty of the executive committee to carry out the orders of the Board of Directors, and to have the general supervision of the society's grounds.

ART. XI. The principal place of business shall be in Mt. Ayr, Iowa, and no capital shall be required other than the amount received from the State and county and the proceeds of the annual fair, which can only be invested in grounds and fixtures necessary to the accommodation of the society, the payment of premiums and the usual expenses of the society.

ART. XII. This society shall hold an annual fair at such a time as the Board of Directors may determine.

ART. XIII. Any person may become a member of this society by paying the annual sum of $1.00 to the society, which entitles him to a vote at the annual meeting in the election of officers.

ART. XIV. The Board of Directors shall annually—prior to the 1st of May—establish a list of premiums to be awarded at the next fair, and adopt rules and regulations for its government, which shall be published as provided by law.

ART. XV. At the election of officers, any member receiving a majority of all votes cast for any office, shall be declared elected.

ART. XVI. Voting by this society for the election of officers shall be by ballot, and in all other cases may be by "aye" or "nay."

ART. XVII. In all cases of adjourned meetings or special meetings of the society—provided five days' notice has been given—three members shall constitute a quorum for transaction of business.

ART. XVIII. This constitution and by-laws of this society may be altered at any regular meeting thereof, by a vote of the majority of the members present.

The payment of $1.00 annually entitles a person to membership and a family ticket. In 1885 over 600 tickets were sold. In 1886 the experiment of charging $2.00 for a membership and family ticket was tried, and but eighty-three tickets were taken. Single admission tickets are 25 cents.

The officers of the society for 1886 are: I. A. Palmer, President; John Beaty, Vice-President; Henry Todd, Secretary; J. W. Scott, Joseph Robinson, D. C. Tidrick, I. M. Long and Daniel Huffman, Directors; J. M. McGorsuch, L. O. Imus and James W. Spencer, Executive Committee.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

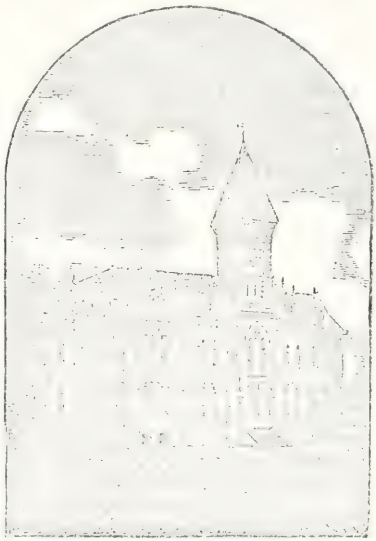
In the spring of 1856 the county judge caused the erection of a hewed-log house, at Mt. Ayr, for the use of the county officers. It was fourteen feet square, and furnished with two tables, two desks or book-cases, and a small rough-board box or safe for the public revenue. It was occupied by the county judge, clerk, treasurer and recorder, surveyor, and one physician, as regular occupants. This first court-house was blown down by a high wind, and the records scattered far and wide. Some papers were never recovered. Pieces of money were found two weeks afterward. The ruined building was superseded in 1859 by a frame one erected on the east side of and fronting the public square, two stories high, with four office rooms in the first, and court and jury rooms in the second story. It cost $3,500, which was paid from the proceeds of the sales of town lots. This old building is yet standing, and is used for mercantile purposes.

Though the need for a better place to keep the valuable documents and accumulating records, and more suitable accommodations for the county offices, and the terms of court was felt for many years, it was not until 1881 that the matter was taken up, and a petition presented to the Board of Supervisors, asking that an election be called for the purpose of voting on the question of issuing bonds to build a house, within a limit of $30,000. The election was called, but the proposition was defeated by a large majority. The matter was again brought before the Board in 1882, and another special election was called for June, which resulted as before, but the majority against the proposition was very small. It was again submitted at the regular election in the autumn of that year, and this time the vote was favorable. The limit was placed at $40,000.

During the remainder of 1882 the work of selling the bonds, looking up plans, etc., was done. The contract was let to R. K. Allen, of St. Joseph, Missouri, for $35,445, under the plans and specifications of Eckel & Mann, in March, 1883. As the Board had sold the bonds at a premium, there was $40,527 in their hands, leaving a balance of over $5,000. Out of this it was determined to expend sufficient to put in steam-heating apparatus, a large clock, a gas machine, and other improvements.

Ground was broken early in 1883, but the continuous wet weather prevented them from making brick, and no work was done on the building until the middle of August. The work progressed sufficiently to enclose it by the time extreme cold weather set in, and the inside work was done during the winter and spring. The building was occupied in April, though not entirely finished that soon.

The court-house is seventy-seven and one-half feet wide, north and south, and ninety-eight feet long, east and west, and to the top of the roof is about fifty feet. It is 102 feet to the top of the tower. The foundation walls are seven feet below the surface of the ground, and are five feet thick at the base. The basement story is a net-work of heavy, intersecting walls, forming a large number of small rooms. Several of these are arranged for the steam-heating apparatus. On the first



COURT-HOUSE, MT. AYR.

floor are the rooms used by the clerk, treasurer, recorder, grand jury, grand jury witnesses, sheriff, superintendent of schools, Board of Supervisors and auditor, besides five vaults and a well-equipped wash-room and water-closet. A tessellated or checkered marble floor is laid in the halls. The grand stairways are located on both sides of the eastern entrance. There is also a smaller single stairway in the western part of the building. The first story is fourteen feet high inside.

On the second floor is the court-room, clerk's room and vault, and rooms for the prosecuting-attorney, jury, surveyor and coroner. The court-room is 40 x 68 feet, and capable of seating about 300 persons. The clerk's upper and lower rooms are connected by an elevator or dummy, by which books and documents may be transferred quickly and easily. A winding stair leads up inside the tower, from which one can get a commanding view of the surrounding country for a distance of twenty miles.

The building is located in the center of a square 280 x 280 feet, filled with trees. It is a matter of great pride to the citizens to have so fine a building, honestly constructed and well arranged. It is large enough to answer all purposes during the lives of all present residents of Ringgold County.

The county has never had but one jail. The Board of Supervisors in June, 1876, appointed E. G. Martin and Charles Arndt to draft specifications. The contract for building the jail, was awarded August 12, 1876, to Charles Arndt, for $1,258. It is south of the southeast corner of the square, is 18 x 20 feet in size, and ten feet high. It is built of square timbers, with an iron roof, and contains four rooms. The two cells are constructed of half-inch boiler iron.

The county farm is 240 acres in size, and includes the south half of the southwest quarter of section 17, the east half of the northwest quarter of section 20, and the west half of the northeast quarter of section 20, township 69 north, range 29 west. The farm was bought of John A. Underhill, October 6, 1882, for $5,000. The county put up a building the next spring, at a cost of over $2,000, and other improvements have cost another $1,000. There are now seventeen inmates of the county house.

RAILROADS.

The county was without these wonderful aids to development until 1879. In that year the Leon, Mt. Ayr & Southwestern Railroad Company was organized, and a road built from Bethany Junction, Decatur County, to Mt. Ayr, 23.1 miles. The townships crossed voted from two to five per cent. taxes, and contributed $48,000 and the right of way. They received stock for this amount, but the stock was absolutely worthless. In 1880, the branch was extended to Grant City, 22.3 miles from Mt. Ayr. The line is officially known as the Chariton & Grant City branch, and is 45.4 miles long. The stations in this county, with distances from Bethany Junction are: Kellerton, eleven; Lesan, sixteen; Mount Ayr, twenty-three; Delphos, twenty-eight; Redding, thirty-four. One mixed train a day runs from Grant City to Bethany Junction and return.

The Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad, in the northern part of the county, crosses the northern tier of townships east and west, and also Grant and Monroe Townships. It was built in 1880, by the Burlington & Wabash Companies, in partnership, and extends from Humeston to Shenandoah, a little over 100 miles. The stations in this county, and distances from Humeston, are: Beaconsfield, thirty-three; Wirt, thirty-seven; Tingley, forty-two; Kew, forty-eight; Goshen, fifty-three. Two trains a day are run in each direction.

STATISTICS OF POPULATION.

The population of Ringgold County has been, at the dates given, as follows: 1854, 128; 1856, 1,172; 1859, 2,507; 1860, 2,923; 1863, 3,038; 1865, 3,589; 1867, 3,888; 1869, 5,029; 1870, 5,691; 1873, 6,850; 1875, 7,546; 1880, 12,085; 1885, 12,730.

Below is given the population by townships in 1860, 1870, 1880 and 1885:

CENSUS OF 1860.

Athens, 241; East Fork, 257; Lott's Creek, 476; Middle Fork, 191; Mt. Ayr, 386; Platte, 182; Sand Creek, 221; Washington, 614; West Fork, 354.

CENSUS OF 1870.

Athens, 502; Benton, 367; Clinton, 341; Grant, 290; Jefferson, 527; Liberty, 243; Lincoln, 205; Lott's Creek, 709; Middle Fork, 457; Monroe, 268; Mt. Ayr, 827; Tingley, 112; Union, 325; Washington, 518.

CENSUS OF 1880.

Athens, 834; Benton, 760; Clinton, 831; Grant, 655; Jefferson, 833; Liberty, 574; Lincoln, 815; Lott's Creek, 779; Middle Fork, 704; Monroe, 545; Mt. Ayr, 1,275; Poe, 552; Rice, 566; Riley, 404; Tingley, 516; Union, 625; Washington, 817.

CENSUS OF 1885.

Athens, 712; Benton, 649; Clinton, 653; Grant, 843; Jefferson, 734; Liberty, 642; Lincoln, 654; Lott's Creek, 718; Middle Fork, 661; Monroe, 680; Mt. Ayr, 1,274; Poe, 536; Rice, 675; Riley, 370; Tingley, 619; Union, 844; Washington, 784.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Number of dwellings, 2,524. Number of families, 2,550; males, 6,685; females, 6,045; native-born, 12,207; foreign-born, 523.

NATIVE POPULATION, BY STATES.

Arkansas, 5; California, 5; Colorado, 3; Connecticut, 20; Delaware, 5; Florida, 3; Georgia, 1; Illinois, 1,387; Indiana, 826; Iowa, 6,307; Kansas, 81; Kentucky, 146; Louisiana, 2; Maine, 40; Maryland, 23; Massachusetts, 23; Michigan, 35; Minnesota, 23; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 351; Nebraska, 21; Nevada, 4; New Hampshire, 5; New Jersey, 40; New York, 236; North Carolina, 82; Ohio, 1,533; Oregon, 2; Pennsylvania, 633; Rhode Island, 4; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 55; Texas, 2; Vermont, 20; Virginia, 141; West Virginia, 38; Wisconsin, 86; Dakota, 6; Utah, 6; Washington, 3.

FOREIGN POPULATION, BY COUNTRIES.

England, 94; Scotland, 16; Ireland, 181; Wales, 1; Canada, 62; Sweden, 11; France, 18; Germany, 62; Bohemia, 36; Denmark, 1; other countries, 41.

POSTOFFICES.

There are in Ringgold County twenty postoffices, as follows: Beaconsfield, Blackmore, Caledonia, Clipper, Delphos, Eugene, Goshen, Ingart, Kellerton, Kew, Lesan, Maloy, Mortimer, Mt. Ayr, Redding, Riley, Ringgold, Thomas, Tingley and Wirt.

MOUNT AYR.

THIS place is pleasantly situated on a high, rolling prairie, near the head of the Middle Grand River, three-quarters of a mile south of the geographical center of the county, and within a mile and a quarter of Walnut Creek. The nearest timber is about one mile distant. The site of the town commands an extensive view of the surrounding country, in different directions.

Before the location of the county seat by the commissioners appointed by the General Assembly, the residents of Ringgold County had discussed the question, and in a sort of caucus or conference had fixed on a site on the land of Jesse Thompson, four miles south, and a little east of the present Mt. Ayr. That place was to be called Avon. Most of the first residents were in the southern part of the county, hence they desired to have the seat of justice as near to them as possible,

The circumstances of the location of the county seat upon the land of John S. Sheller, and the naming of the same Mt. Ayr, in April, 1855, are narrated in full under the head of Early History. The southwest quarter of section 6, township 68 north, range 29 west, was selected, John S. Sheller, the owner, conveying the east half to the county, and agreeing to sustain the expense of the surveying. The county and Mr. Sheller were thereby made half owners of the original town, the division line running through the center of the public square. William McCormick, of Chariton, was employed to survey the town, which he did in the latter part of June, 1855. His report to Judge Hagans was made July 3, 1855, in the following words:

"I, William McCormick, surveyor, appointed by the county judge, of Ringgold County, Iowa, hereby certify that the annexed plat of the town of Mt. Ayr, in said county, corresponds with and is a true plat of the survey of said town, as surveyed by me on and after the 22d day of June, 1855, by order of the county judge of said county and Edward A. Temple, who is part proprietor on the southwest fractional quarter of section 6, township 68 north, range 29 west. That I planted a stone in the center and one at each corner of the town plat, and a stone at the southeast corner of each block. Border streets are thirty-three feet wide; all other streets are sixty-

six feet wide. All alleys are sixteen and a half feet wide. Lots fronting on the public square are forty-four feet front by 132 feet deep; all other lots sixty-six feet front by 132 feet deep, except those on the outer tier, which are fractional, and are marked on the plat as such."

The first settlement was made in 1855, by David Edwards, Oran Gore, Chester Standcliff, B. B. Dunning and A. G. Beall. In the spring of 1856 the county judge, clerk and treasurer made their homes in Mt. Ayr, and about the same time Henry Crabb, a merchant, and Dr. E. Keith, settled in the place, being respectively the first merchant and physician. Other pioneers were E. G. Martin, a blacksmith, John Romans, Samuel Dickey, Isaac W. Keller and D. C. Kinsell. By 1860 the village is said to have reached a population of about 250. During the war it was about stationary, but from 1865 to 1870 it grew steadily, and in 1870 there were 422 inhabitants. The growth was very light then until the railroad was projected to this place, when it grew rapidly for a couple of years. In 1880 the Federal census gave the town 1,275, and at that figure it has since remained. The State census in 1885, showed 1,274.

FIRES AND FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The first serious fire occurred in 1879, when four firms were burned out, at the northeast corner of the square. Sellards & Ross were the principal sufferers. In 1881 a building was destroyed at the southeast corner of the square, near the postoffice. In the autumn of 1885 the Crawford House and Mrs. Allaway's boarding-house, northeast of the court-house were burned. The most serious fire of all occurred October 30, 1885, when James Askren & Co.'s grocery, Stewart Berkey's book store, Ottenhauser's grocery, I. Frank & Co.'s clothing establishment and F. F. Leather's law office, a row of buildings on the south side, were burned. The Hook and Ladder Company of Mt. Ayr was organized in 1880, and two years later was provided with suitable apparatus—ladders, buckets, axes, etc. Thomas Leisure is chief.

INCORPORATION.

The incorporated town of Mt. Ayr dates from 1875. The first meeting of the council was held July 5, of that year, at the office of the mayor, E. G. Martin. The officers elected that and subsequent years have been as follows:

1875.—Mayor, E. G. Martin; Councilmen, Isaac W. Keller, Thomas Ross, A. Ingram, J. D. Miller and N. W. Clark; Recorder, R. F. Askren, resigned and succeeded by A. J. Johnson, and he by J. C. Askren; Marshal, J. B. Elliott, resigned, and D. B. Marshall appointed; Street Commissioner, John Romans; Treasurer, Walter Dunning.

1876.—Mayor, E. G. Martin; Councilmen, N. W. Clark, J. D. Miller, John Currie, Charles Arndt and W. H. Alexander; Recorder, J. C. Askren; Treasurer, Henry Todd; Street Commissioner and Marshal, D. B. Marshall; Attorney, J. F. Mount.

1877.—Mayor, E. G. Martin; Councilmen, George T. Young, A. Ingram, I. W. Keller, Thomas Liggett and Z. T. Kinsell; Recorder, C. B. Morris; Attorney, J. F. Mount; Street Commissioner, M. T. McIntyre.

1878.—Mayor, E. G. Martin; Councilmen, Isaac W. Keller, Z. T. Kinsell, Day Dunning, B. R. Baker and Thomas Liggett; Recorder, D. E. Thomas; Treasurer, Henry Todd; Assessor, J. T. Williams; Street Commissioner and Marshal, E. L. Williams.

1879.—Mayor, R. F. Askren; Councilmen, B. R. Baker, Day Dunning, J. S. Kirby, A. Nash, Isaac W. Keller, resigned, and succeeded by M. S. Campbell and W.

H. Struthers; Recorder, E. G. Martin; Treasurer, Henry Todd; Marshal, J. D. Gilliland; Street Commissioner, C. Ewan.

1880.—Mayor, E. G. Martin; Councilmen, M. S. Campbell, J. W. Ward, W. H. Struthers, J. S. Kirby, A. Nash and Day Dunning; Recorder, H. C. Markham; Treasurer, A. M. Poor; Assessor, J. T. Williams; Street Commissioner, E. L. Williams; Marshal, John McFarland.

1881.—Mayor, H. C. Markham; Councilmen, John S. Everett, Z. T. Kinsell, Thomas Liggett, Day Dunning, J. W. Ward and M. S. Campbell; Recorder, W. H. Struthers; Treasurer, George S. Allyn; Assessor, Thomas Ross; Street Commissioner, E. L. Williams; Marshal, Aaron Nash.

1882.—Mayor, R. F. Askren; Councilmen, C. B. Morris, E. W. Critchfield, M. S. Campbell, John S. Everett, Thomas Liggett and Z. T. Kinsell; Recorder, W. H. Struthers; Assessor, Thomas Ross; Treasurer, George S. Allyn; Street Commissioner, E. L. Williams; Attorney, Isaac W. Keller; Marshal, W. A. De Lashmutt.

1883.—Mayor, A. J. French; Councilmen, C. B. Morris, E. W. Critchfield, Thomas Liggett, John S. Everett, Z. T. Kinsell and J. B. Tracy; Recorder, J. P. Lesan; Attorney, Isaac W. Keller; Marshal, W. A. De Lashmutt. J. P. Lesan was elected Mayor in place of A. J. French, and N. A. Parker was chosen Recorder to succeed Mr. Lesan.

1884.—Mayor, J. P. Lesan; Councilmen, G. C. Muir, A. O. Ingram, E. W. Critchfield, Thomas Liggett, J. B. Tracy and C. B. Morris; Recorder, N. A. Parker; Treasurer, George S. Allyn; Assessor, Thomas Ross; Marshal, Alexander Holland; Street Commissioner, Henry H. Ross; Attorney, Isaac W. Keller.

1885.—Mayor, J. E. Scott; Councilmen, E. W. Critchfield, Thomas Liggett, A. O. Ingram, Henry Todd, G. C. Muir and G. A. Slentz; Recorder, N. A. Parker; Marshal, A. E. Holland; Treasurer, George S. Allyn; Street Commissioner, H. H. Ross; Assessor, Thomas Ross; Attorney, Isaac W. Keller.

1886.—Mayor, J. E. Scott; Councilmen, A. O. Ingram, G. A. Slentz, J. F. Wall, C. Ewan, H. A. White and S. Bailey; Recorder, J. Faris; Attorney, Isaac W. Keller; Treasurer, Henry Todd; Street Commissioner and Marshal, A. E. Holland; Assessor, Thomas Ross.

SCHOOLS.

A common district school was maintained until 1880, when a course of study was adopted, and the school put on a city basis. Up to 1879 there were in use two frame buildings, each containing one room, located on the same lot, two blocks northeast of the square. In 1878 a brick building was erected in the eastern part of the town, containing four rooms, and costing $8,500. In 1881 an addition was built, containing two rooms, and costing $3,000. A room is also rented in the business part of town, near the postoffice. Eight teachers are employed, including the principal. The corps for 1886-'7 is: J. W. Wilkerson, Principal; Lucy Plants, Lora Laughlin, Vina A. Sullivan, Hettie I. Dubois, Nora M. White, Winnie Kirby and Louie Ellington. The enrollment is 478; average attendance, 400. For 1885-'6 the expenditures were: Teachers' fund, $3,467.40; contingent fund, $1,392.90; school-house fund, $1,504.37; total, $6,364.67. The School Board for the present year includes: E. G. Pratt, President; George S. Allyn, R. C. Henry, Day Dunning, Thomas Lewis and John German. J. P. Lesan is Secretary, and G. A. Slentz, Treasurer.

CHURCHES.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—The first preacher stationed on this circuit was Rev.

Jesse Sherwood, who visited every charge in the county once in three weeks, preaching in the log school-house, sixteen feet square, which was usually well filled. He spent two years on this circuit, beginning with the autumn of 1856. As soon as the court-house was built, in 1859, that was made the place of worship. Rev. C. E. Spooner was here from 1858 to 1860. Revs. B. Shinn, Jerry Hughes and Oliver Williams filled up the next two years. Then came, in succession, Rev. George Bennett, one year; Dr. U. P. Golliday and Rev. Collins, one year; Rev. D. B. Clary, one year; Rev. Baker, two years; Revs. Calfee and C. A. B. Watson, one year; Revs. E. M. King and Walker, one year, and Rev. Burris, one year. During Rev. Burris' stay the church was commenced, 1870, and it was completed and dedicated during the pastorate of Rev. W. T. Smith, who remained two years. Rev. M. Miller was here from 1872 to 1874, and his time was finished by Rev. B. D. Himebaugh. In 1874 the parsonage was completed. It is now used as a residence by D. W. Cole. Rev. H. W. Deshler was here 1874–'5; Rev. Hayes, 1875–'6; Rev. Bartholomew, 1876–'7; Dr. U. P. Golliday, 1877–'80; Rev. Jacob Miller, 1880–'1; Rev. Moore, 1881–'2; Rev. Chambers, 1882–'4; Rev. Vollmar, 1884–'7. During Rev. Miller's stay here the present parsonage was built. The membership is now 200. Robert Williams is superintendent of the Sunday-school, which has an average attendance of 130.

United Presbyterian Church.—The church of this denomination was built in 1870. It is a frame structure, in the northeastern part of the town, and cost in all $3,500. The membership at this time was about forty. Meetings had been held for several years in the court-house. Rev. William Brown served the church five years; Rev. B. F. Mustard, three years, and Rev. J. H. Tedford, seven years. No services have been held since July, 1885. The membership is about ninety. The trustees are: M. R. McClanahan, P. A. Hunter, W. J. Buck, D. E. Lawhead and Thomas Liggett. The elders are: W. J. Buck, William Maxwell and Thomas Liggett. George A. Slentz is superintendent of the Sunday-school, whose attendance is about sixty.

Presbyterian Church.—In 1867 Rev. S. A. McElhiney, of Bedford, was directed by the Presbytery to come monthly to this place. He soon after organized the Mt. Ayr Church, with twelve members. In 1873 a frame house of worship was erected at a cost of $3,600, including furnishings, one block east of the public square. The membership had by this time reached forty, and it is now not less than fifty. Services are held every Sunday by Rev. G. P. Wood, who commenced his work here in June, 1884. The attendance at Sunday-school, of which the pastor is superintendent, is about seventy-five. The elders of the church are: William Tennant, John G. Faris, John Blauer and William Snedaker.

The Baptist Church was organized in 1871, by Rev. C. Tilbury, of Illinois. He remained two or three years, during which time, in 1872, the church was built, two blocks northwest of the court-house, at an expenditure of $2,200. Since Mr. Tilbury's time the pastors have been: Revs. Morris, Funk, Edwards and Peter Andrews, who began here in 1879. The membership is about fifty. The pastor is superintendent of the Sunday-school, which has an attendance of forty. The deacons are: William Timby and Noah Brock. Mrs. R. C. Henry acts as clerk.

Christian Church.—This society was organized in 1881, by Rev. William Gadd, of Ottumwa, who remained until 1884. In 1883 the house of worship was built, one block east of the northeast corner of the public square, at a cost, including lot and furnishings, of $2,700. Rev. J. P. Lucas

came here monthly, from the spring till August, 1884, and the present pastor, Rev. J. C. White, began his labors in October of that year. The membership at time of organization was twenty-three; it is now sixty. The elders are: M. J. Donahoe and A. B. Radcliffe. Trustees: E. W. Critchfield, H. H. Espey and D. S. Baker. A. B. Radcliffe is superintendent of the Sunday-school, which has an attendance of about fifty.

The Episcopalians had a mission here, which is no longer active, and the Catholics are accumulating funds preparatory to building.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Mt. Ayr is well supplied with branches of the several secret orders.

Faith Lodge, No. 179, *A. F. & A. M.*, meets Friday evening on or before each full moon.

Salem Chapter, No. 75, *R. A. M.*, meets Friday evening after each full moon.

Mount Ayr Lodge, No. 169, *I. O. O. F.*, meets every Saturday evening.

Delta Encampment, No. 69, meets the second and fourth Wednesday evenings of each month.

Mount Ayr Lodge, No. 91, *I. O. G. T.*, meets the first and third Monday evenings of each month.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 26, *Daughters of Rebekah*, meets the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month.

Theta Lodge, No. 189, *A. O. U. W.*, meets the first and third Monday evenings of each month.

Subordinate Lodge, No. 20, *A. H. T. A.*, meets at the court-house, the Saturday evening on, or before each full moon.

Ellis C. Miller Post, No. 96, *G. A. R.*, meets the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month.

There are also organizations of the Sons of Veterans, and Woman's Relief Corps.

BANKS.

The first bank in Mt. Ayr, was that of Dunning, Sellards & Co., established in 1869. In 1874 the firm became Dunning & Co., and in 1878 they purchased the Ringgold County Bank, which name they adopted. This had been established in 1872, by Merrill, Kinsell & Co. The Ringgold County Bank was bought afterward by Dr. J. T. Merrill, who conducted it till January, 1885, at which date it went out of business.

Morris & Allyn began business in 1880, and the firm became Allyn Brothers, May 1, 1886. This is known as the Mt. Ayr Bank. Its capital is $50,000. George S. Allyn is Cashier, and John H. Allyn, Assistant Cashier.

The Citizens' Bank was established in 1880, with C. B. Dunning as Cashier, and Day Dunning as President. The former died in the course of a few months, and Day Dunning has since been sole proprietor.

PROFESSIONAL.

The following firms are attorneys, most of them being also loan agents and real estate dealers: Henry & Spence, R. F. Askren, G. W. Carnes, Brockett & Bevis, J. E. Scott, Isaac W. Keller, J. F. Mount, F. F. Leathers, Ezra C. McMasters and Laughlin and Campbell.

The physicians are Drs. S. Bailey, C. B. White and William Horne; dentists, E. Stiles and D. H. Killingsworth.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Following are the business firms of Mt. Ayr, in the autumn of 1886:

Allyn Brothers, Mt. Ayr Bank; W. S. Berkey, books and news; Melvin Bennett, bakery; William Been, meat market; H. Bastow, livery; Miss Minerva Cattern, millinery; C. J. Chance, grocery;

A. F. Collins, restaurant; Cole & Pratt, lumber; Rufus Conkling, livery; Clark & Shepherd, harness; Crawford & Wall, blacksmiths; John Currie, Mt. Ayr House; Critchfield & Fry, agricultural implements; Ira Day, livery; Dowling & Freshwater, blacksmiths; Doze, Peter & Co., agricultural implements; W. A. De Lashmutt, grocery; Disbrow & Moore, shoe shop; Day Dunning, Citizens' Bank; Francis Ellis, Ellis House and livery; J. C. Faris, restaurant; J. W. Gray, blacksmith; Gilliland, Diebert & Co., agricultural implements; E. B. Hayward, lumber; C. L. Harper, photographer; Huggins, Saville & Co., dry-goods and millinery; John Horne, drugs; Harper, Bedwell & Co., hardware; A. Ingram & Sons, general store; Ingram & Todd, grocery; Imus & Woodmansee, barbers; H. V. Johnson, sewing machines; Z. T. Kinsell, hardware; D. C. Kinsell & Co., dry-goods; Thomas Liggett, grocery; John Lineberg, boots and shoes, and American Express; J. H. Lester, boots and shoes; Mt. Ayr Furniture Co., furniture; M. G. Maxwell, photographer; Mrs. J. T. Merrill, millinery; J. T. Merrill, drugs; Fred. Offenhauser, grocery; J. W. O'Neal, barber; Rogers & Rush, furniture; W. A. Reger, book store; J. H. Richardson, jewelry, sewing machines and musical instruments; Anna Schultz, dressmaking; George A. Slentz, dry-goods; George R. Stephens, *Ringgold County Record;* C. W. Schoch, meat market; J. S. Shepherd, Mount Ayr *Journal;* William Towle, boots and shoes; J. L. Thompson & Co., harness; B. W. Vardaman, jeweler; I. N. Watson, carpenter; Adam Warner, undertaker; H. H. Wilson, grocery; G. W. Watson, watch and gun repairer; Williams & Tedford, *Ringgold County Republican;* Wall Brothers, grocery.

VILLAGES

IN Ringgold County, besides Mt. Ayr, there are several smaller towns, which form convenient markets and shipping points. The largest of these is

KELLERTON.

In 1879, when the Leon & Southwestern Railroad was built from Bethany Junction to Mt. Ayr, some of the leading capitalists interested in the road formed a company, and laid out the village which they named Kellerton, in honor of Judge Isaac W. Keller, of Mt. Ayr. The company bought eighty acres of Samuel Fetrow, and 160 of John Fetrow, on section 10, Athens Township, and laid off seventy acres in lots. The site is well chosen, on high, but level ground, commanding a view on clear days of both Mt. Ayr and Leon. A fine agricultural district surrounds Kellerton.

F. S. Rhodes built the first store, in 1880, and immediately afterward Captain Thomas E. Scott built a dwelling, A. H. Teale a store and dwelling, Richard Emerson and John Hammond, a store and dwelling, W. P. Jennison, a store and dwelling, Hugh White, a hotel, and David Stafford, a drug store. Others rapidly followed, and by the end of the first season there were not less than thirty houses. The census of 1880 gave the place 169 inhabitants. Since then the growth of Kellerton has been more moderate. In 1885 there were 261 inhabitants, and in 1886 there are about 300.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

The firms doing business at Kellerton in October, 1886, are:

H. Gerber, general merchandise; Camp & Brother, druggists and physicians; James F. Mason, general merchandise; W. W. Peasley, Kellerton Bank; A. H. Teale, general merchandise; M. Haught, general merchandise; Richard Emerson, general merchandise; Frank Smith, postmaster; Scott & Co., elevator; S. Ockerman, station agent; David Aldridge, lumber and coal; Henry Shott, lumber and coal; Richard Emerson, agricultural implements; R. L. Brown, barber; William Ballard, barber; Martin Enochs, livery; Thomas E. Scott, justice of the peace.

PAPERS.

Two papers have been published here at different times. The *Mentor* was started in

1881, by Kendall Brothers, who sold to George R. Stephens, of the *Ringgold County Record*, in 1882. It was published another year, by him, and then suspended. It was a Republican paper, six-column folio in size. The *Independent* soon started up, in 1883, under the management of B. W. and F. W. Richards, who came here from Lucas. The paper was independent in politics, four pages in size, and lived nearly two years, then going the way of its predecessor.

PROFESSIONAL.

The only attorney here is W. K. Brown, who has been a resident of this neighborhood for seventeen years. He read law at Leon, and began practice at Kellerton, in 1880.

The first physician here was L. P. Thayer, who came in 1880, remained three years, and is now in Davis County. Dr. Jewett was here one year, and is now in Missouri. A. and M. Camp, brothers, have been here and in practice since 1880. R. Tripp was here several years and is now in Jasper County, this State. W. L. Gleason came in 1884, and has been in practice since.

POSTMASTERS.

The postoffice of Kellerton was established soon after the location of the village, and F. A. Brown was appointed the first postmaster. Succeeding him the incumbents have been: J. W. Kendall, C. W. Prindle, E. M. Carpenter and Frank Smith.

CHURCHES.

The Methodist Church, in the southeast corner of the village is not yet completed. It was begun in 1885, is 36 x 42 in size, and will cost $1,200. Services have been held by this denomination since 1879, by Revs. W. W. Danner, two years; Johnson, one year; Throckmorton, one year; Main, one year; Faucet, two years, and Willey. The last named commenced his labors here in September, 1886. Services are held every three weeks. The membership is about thirty. H. J. Shott is superintendent of the Sunday-school.

The Catholic Church was built in 1883. It is situated in the southwest corner of the village, and cost $600. Services are held monthly by Father Williams, of Mt. Ayr. Preceding him was Father Fealey, who built the church. About fifteen Catholic families worship here.

The Christian Church, in the northwest part of the town, was built in 1884, at a cost of $1,500, and is 36 x 40 feet in size. The membership is not far from fifty. Services are held every Sunday, by Rev. Wilkerson. Preceding him, irregular services only had been held, by Revs. Lemon, of Leon, and White, of Mt. Ayr. G. M. Lesan is superintendent of the Sunday-school, which has an average attendance of sixty.

SCHOOL.

The school-house was built in the autumn of 1880, at a cost of $1,300. It is a two-story frame building. Two teachers are employed, usually for nine months. C. S. Palmer and G. M. Lesan are the present teachers. The School Board includes D. N. Aldridge, President, J. F. Mason and C. L. Goss. C. S. Palmer is Secretary, and M. Haught, Treasurer.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Topaz Lodge, No. 438, A. F. & A. M., was organized under dispensation, March 1, 1882, with these members and officers: I. P. Wiley, Worshipful Master; W. K. Brown, Senior Warden; E. W. McDonald, Junior Warden; John Wiley, D. P. Mathews, D. Stafford, A. M. Jackson, F. C. Smith, H. J. Shotts, John Litterell and A. Camp. The charter was issued in June, 1884. The officers for 1886 are: E. W. Mc-

Donald, Worshipful Master; A. Camp, Senior Warden; F. C. Smith, Junior Warden; W. K. Brown, Secretary; A. M. Jackson, Treasurer. The membership is twenty-five. Meetings are held Wednesday, on or before each full moon.

Kellerton Lodge, No. 425, *I. O. O. F.*, was organized May 27, 1881. The present officers are: M. Camp, Noble Grand; M. Haught, Vice-Grand; J. J. Barker, Past Grand; J. F. Mason, Recording Secretary; William King, Treasurer. There are now but thirteen members. Meetings are held every Thursday evening.

Kellerton Lodge, No. 90, *I. O. G. T.*, was organized early in 1885, with over sixty members. There are now not as many. The officers at present writing are: George M. Lesan, Lodge Deputy; D. N. Aldridge, Chief Templar; Mrs. N. J. Lillie, Vice-Templar; Captain Thomas E. Scott, Chaplain; Eli Ham, Past Chief Templar; Sherman Aldridge, Financial Secretary; Mrs. Mary Reynolds, Secretary; George M. Lesan, Assistant Secretary; George Smith, Inside Guard; Ed. Harris, Outside Guard.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

The Kellerton Band of Hope was organized in the spring of 1886, and now includes forty-six little ones.

The Kellerton Brass Band was organized August 1, 1885. The membership includes fourteen pieces: B. F. Briley, leader and E-flat cornet; Fred Buck, E-flat cornet; J. F. Mason, first B flat; W. W. Peasley, second B-flat; James Brauhart, solo alto; G. M. Lesan, first alto; John F. Scott, second alto; F. C. Higgins, first tenor; Eddie Scott, second tenor; R. Piant, baritone; R. L. Brown, B-flat bass; A. H. Teale, tuba; B. Harriman, snare drum; H. J. Shotts, bass drum.

INCORPORATION.

Kellerton was incorporated in January, 1882. The officers chosen to serve from January until March were: Mayor, Thomas E. Scott; Recorder, W. K. Brown; Council, A. H. Teale, F. S. Rhodes, A. L. Martin, D. C. Johnson and C. W. Prindle; Treasurer, A. H. Teale. The officers chosen in March of each year since have been:

1882.—Mayor, F. A. Brown; Recorder, Thomas Struthers; Treasurer, A. H. Teale; Council, A. H. Teale, A. L. Martin, C. W. Prindle, Isaac Hughes, J. F. Mason and W. K. Brown.

1883.—Mayor, J. A. Stone; Recorder, J. L. Hughes; Treasurer, A. H. Teale; Council, J. F. Mason, A. H. Teale, C. W. Prindle, A. L. Martin and Isaac Hughes.

1884.—Mayor, J. A. Stone; Recorder, George M. Lesan; Treasurer, A. H. Teale; Council, J. L. Hughes, Isaac Hughes, J. L. Scott, A. H. Teale, J. F. Mason and C. W. Prindle.

1885.—Mayor, W. W. Peasley; Recorder, C. S. Palmer; Treasurer, A. H. Teale; Council, G. M. Lesan, James P. Brauhart, J. F. Scott, J. F. Mason, A. H. Teale and Isaac Hughes.

1886.—Mayor, W. W. Peasley; Recorder, C. S. Palmer; Treasurer, A. H. Teale; Council, G. W. Hampton, M. Haught, G. M. Lesan, J. P. Brauhart, Isaac Hughes and J. F. Scott.

TINGLEY.

The postoffice of Tingley was established a number of years ago, five miles northeast of the present village. In 1881 a town company laid out the village of Tingley, on section 21, Tingley Township, on the line of the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad, which was then building. Cars commenced to run in the spring of 1882, but the autumn previous quite a village had sprung up. The town company bought 200 acres of land of Avenill Brothers, F. W. Harding and George Swain. Mr. Swain built the first store and sold the first goods in the place. Next were Howland & Mc-

Creight. Other early comers were: John Haver & Co., general store; Parrish & Taylor, hardware: John Kelly, grocery; V. D. Colles, drugs; J. I. Berry, livery and feed stable; J. R. and W. L. Embree, lumber; Alexander Beard & Son, lumber; R. E. Burke, contractor and builder; Levi Coon, blacksmith; C. C. Bosworth, coal; and John Rowell, harness. By the close of 1882 there were nearly 200 inhabitants. Since then the growth has been slow. The State census of 1885 credited the place with 211 inhabitants. Tingley was incorporated in 1885, and now claims 250 people. It is in a fine agricultural region, from which it draws a profitable trade.

The Tingley *Times* was started by J. Gettinger, in 1882. He sold to L. O. McKinley, and he to Ray Brothers. It the meantime the name was changed to the *News*. Then one Noah became owner, and moved the office to Wirt. Tingley was then without a paper until July, 1885, when the *Battle Axe* was begun, by E. B. Garretson, of Lenox. This warlike paper suspended in December following. J. J. Clark, of Gravity, published the Tingley *Independent* for six months, in 1886, and then went the way of his predecessors. The *Independent* was a six-column paper, $1.50 per year, and was a valuable factor in the business of the place.

J. E. Ray, one of the proprietors of the *News*, was an attorney. He practiced a year or more, and then went to Western Iowa. L. O. McKinley has been here four years, and practices in justices' courts.

The first physician here was L. E. St. John, who staid two years and then went West. James Nichols and R. W. Selby are the present physicians of Tingley.

The first postmaster was George Swain. Mrs. S. E. Pease was then the incumbent until her death, in the summer of 1886, when John Haver was appointed. Maggie Pollock is in charge of the office, as deputy.

Tingley has a fine two-story frame school-house, built in 1885, at a cost of $3,000. It contains two school-rooms below, the upper story being used for religious meetings by the United Presbyterians. Nine months school is taught. The teachers for 1886–'7 are Gertrude Miller and Mary Gray. The attendance is about seventy. The School Board includes J. Haver, President; J. J. McCreight and Jacob Frane. James Nichols is Secretary, and A. T. Hancock, Treasurer.

CHURCHES.

The Christian Church has been organized about ten years; meetings were held in the Tingley Center school-house until 1882, when they built a church in the northeast part of town. Rev. E. W. Miller preaches every two weeks. W. C. Smith is superintendent of the Sunday-school.

The Methodists have likewise been organized about ten years, and met in the Tingley Center school-house until 1885, when they built a house of worship in the north part of the village. Their membership is now sixty. Services are held every Sunday by Rev. George Nixon, of Afton. A union Sunday-school is maintained, attended by about seventy pupils.

The Baptists organized two years ago, and hold services every four weeks in the Christian church, Rev. Andrews, of Mt. Ayr, officiating.

The United Presbyterians hold services every two weeks in the school-house. They have been organized two years, and have forty members. Rev. William Brown, of Eugene, is the present pastor. William Laughery is superintendent of the Sunday-school, which about seventy attend.

SOCIETIES.

Ben Talbot Post, No. 286, G. A. R., was organized in 1883. Andrew Stephenson is Commander; James Pollock, Adjutant;

Alonzo Goodell, Senior Vice-Commander; Frank McGugin, Junior Vice-Commander. The post has a membership of forty, and meets the second and last Saturdays of each month.

Tempest Lodge, No. 164, K. of P., was organized in June, 1886. George Hale is P. C.; Ren. Stewart, C. C.; E. N. DeWitt, V. C.; O. C. House, K. of R. & S.; Wal. Stewart, Prel.; Henry Garside, M. at A.; John Kelly, M. of F.; Richard Metters, M. of E.; J. J. Truman, I. G.; Lou Stewart, O. G. The lodge has fifteen members, and meets every Thursday evening.

Lodge No. 72, A. H. T. A., has twenty-six members, and meets the first Saturday of each month, at Tingley. George Swain is President; J. S. Avenill, Vice-President; J. S. Williams, Secretary; Andrew Stephenson, Financial Secretary; Jacob Frane, Treasurer.

The business firms of October, 1886, are: George Swain, J. Haver & Co., Jones & Wilcox and T. A. Fisher, general merchandise; J. M. Dunbar, clothing; J. R. Stewart, jewelry; Taylor & Swain and Garside & Son, hardware; R. W. Selby & Co. and T. P. Asbury, drugs; House & Carney, farm implements; E. N. DeWitt and Peter Smith, livery; Charles Carmichael, meat market; E. M. Stevens, restaurant; Mrs. Sadie Johnson, millinery; D. B. Alley and McClaskey & Wines, barbers; John Wines, shoe shop; John Rowell, harness; A. A. Elder, furniture; Willis Karr, Pacific Hotel; Estell & Metters, contractors and builders; Levi Coon, blacksmith; C. H. Ennis, lumber; George Hale, station agent; J. J. McCreight, grain buyer; Levi Howland & Co., poultry buyers; E. C. Edgington, sewing machines; Mrs. E. C. Edgington, dressmaker.

REDDING.

Redding, in Clinton Township, is twelve miles from Mt. Ayr, on the Grant City Branch of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. It was laid out in 1882, by a town company composed of railroad capitalists. J. W. Crouch built the first house, which is now the Redding Hotel. Immediately after, and all about the same time, Wilson & Conine built a store, W. C. Wilson a dwelling, N. B. Allen a restaurant, Watson a store, Al. Silvers a store, George Dennis a blacksmith shop, and Oliver Woolman a wagon shop. The village obtained most of its growth the first year. By 1882 the population was 300, and the village was incorporated. The officers for 1886 are: Mayor, L. P. Milburn; Council, W. E. Lawhead, Loren Gee, Thomas Demcy, F. M. Wisdom, Milton Sullivan and Joseph Allbee; Recorder, J. M. Baird; Attorney, F. M. Wisdom; Marshal, J. M. Baird; Treasurer, J. T. Bernard. In 1884 the village met with two serious reverses, in the shape of fires. The first, in April, destroyed five buildings at the northwest corner of the square. July 5, following, the whole north side was swept away, including William Anthony's general store, P. B. France's general store, B. J. Conine's hotel, Samuel Warden's dwelling, C. S. Pugsley's general store, G. M. Smith's grocery and hardware store and D. W. Poor's grocery. The business portion of the village has been partially rebuilt, but the population is less than formerly. The State census of 1885 gave it 210; they claim 250 now.

The business firms of 1886 are: P. B. France, J. M. Smith, D. M. Smith and Huggins, Saville, Lawhead & Co., general stores; J. T. Bernard, lumber and furniture; E. Russell, drugs; Dennis & Castillo, blacksmiths; P. Moler, grocery; George Huntsman, livery; D. Martin, Union Hotel; Joseph Shaw, Redding Hotel; W. T. Smith, livery; J. W. Crouch, postmaster; Henry H. Rokes, harness; M. T. Falkner, station agent.

Two papers have been published at Red-

ding. The *Reporter* was started in 1885, by F. M. Wisdom, and run for a few months. The *Independent* was started in December, 1885, by Burrell & Noble. The latter withdrew after a time, and again, later, Clayburg Brothers became proprietors. The paper suspended in the summer of 1886. It was independent in politics, and published on Thursdays, at a $1.50 per year.

The only lawyer who has lived and practiced at Redding was George Spence, who was here two or three years. He went to Dakota in 1884.

The first physician here was Thomas Kenworthy, who lived near the village site when the latter was selected. He soon moved to Oregon. H. C. Dukes was here a year or so ago and then went to Clarke County. Dr. McLean was here one year and then went to Missouri. The present physicians are A. E. King, Thomas H. Humphrey and W. E. Lawhead.

The Methodist church at this place was built in the spring of 1884, at an expenditure of about $1,200. The society is an old one, and formerly worshiped in the schoolhouse south of Redding. Services are held in this church nearly every Sunday, by one denomination or another. Rev. Withers preaches here for the Methodists, and Rev. Golding for the Missionary Baptists. D. W. Poor conducts the Sunday-school, the usual attendance of which is seventy-five.

Thomas Huston Post, No. 51, G. A. R., was organized in March, 1883, with William Anthony as Commander; A. Amick, as Adjutant; L. W. Parsons, Officer of the Day and S. Oliver, Quartermaster. The officers for 1886 are: M. A. Waugh, Commander; D. W. Poor, Senior Vice-Commander; I. T. Owens, Junior Vice-Commander; Rev. William Golding; Chaplain; A. Amick, Adjutant; David Hillhouse, Officer of the Day; J. T. Medaris, Quartermaster; F. M. Oliver, Officer of the Guard; J. P. Parker, Surgeon; J. W. Athey, Quartermaster-Sergeant. The membership is now thirty. Meetings are held on Friday evening on or before each full moon.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Cold Water Army are the only other organizations that are active. A lodge of Good Templars was here, but is now defunct.

GOSHEN.

Goshen is situated a mile and three-quarters west of the west fork of the Grand, and two miles and three-quarters east of Platte River. It is twelve miles from Mt. Ayr, and is on the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad. The population is about 150. The name of "Goshen" was selected by Henry Stahl, who settled in Ringgold County in 1856, and was from Goshen, Elkhart County, Indiana. The first postmaster was Michael Stahl, who served until 1881, keeping the office in his dwelling. In that year the railroad came through the northern part of the county, and a station was established in the southeast corner of Grant Township. To this station the name previously in use for the country postoffice was now given. There are now two general stores, one hardware store, one lumber yard, postoffice, two blacksmith shops, one hotel and the Methodist church. J. T. Todd built the first general store, and was postmaster until 1883. B. F. Talley succeeded him in this position, and held it until relieved by the Democratic administration, in the spring of 1886. The hardware store was formerly kept by Hartman Brothers. The firm name is now Hartman & Bailey. D. D. Pratt and Pratt have the two general stores; L. L. Bauman the lumber yard; Miller Brothers buy grain, and G. W. Morrison is proprietor of the hotel. The church was built in 1882. The first preacher was J. E. Evans. First trustees: I. A. Tulley, D. E. Bement, A. M. Bentley and John Bently.

WIRT.

When the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad came through the county Dr. John Davis and Abner Goodell desired a station. The railroad company at first refused, but yielded when Dr. Davis gave the company the right of way for about two miles. They agreed to give a switch for this. In March, 1882, Dr. Davis, at Dayton, Ohio, sold his interests to the company, and Mr. Goodell soon after did the same, on condition that the embryo village be given as full facilities as other stations. Goodell and Davis had platted twenty-eight acres north of the track. In 1884 a few lots were surveyed south of the track. Mr. Goodell acts as agent for the town company.

Before the survey of the village, even, Cochran & Le Fever built a store and began the sale of general mercandise. They were in business from July, 1881, to January, 1882, and then failed. Hughey & Son bought the store. The second mercantile establishment was opened by David Newton & Son, from Hopeville.

The nearest postoffice was Union Hill, three miles northeast. William Cone was postmaster. The office was moved to Wirt, and the name of the latter adopted, and F. E. Newman appointed postmaster. The present incumbent, Mrs. Wisteria House, succeeded him, in January, 1885.

A fine two-story frame school-house was finished in January, 1886, at a cost of about $2,000. School is taught for nine months, and two teachers are employed. These are, for 1886-'7, F. R. Porter and Louie Campbell. The enrollment of the school is about sixty. The present School Board is composed of W. H. Waller, President; J. M. Hughey and James Baker. James Baker is Secretary, and Abner Goodell, Treasurer.

The *Wasp* was a paper published by a man named Noah, for about six months. He sold to John Abrams, who changed the name to the *News*. The last proprietor was John Thrall, who ceased publication in 1884.

The first physician here was named Lloyd. He remained a year or so and then went to Dakota. He was succeeded by J. P. Maxwell, who is yet in practice. Rev. F. S. Lock is both a minister and a physician.

The Evangelical church of this place was organized some ten years ago, and met in various school-houses. In 1883 they built a good white frame house of worship at Wirt, at a cost of $1,600. Rev. Worth preaches every Sunday. Frank Newman is superintendent of the Sunday-school.

Banner Lodge, No. 437, *A. F. & A. M.*, was organized at Grand River, in 1882, and moved to Wirt in July, 1886. The present officers are: H. B. Brothers, Worshipful Master; J. P. Maxwell, Senior Warden; J. W. Johnson, Junior Warden; Henry Waller, Secretary; Henry Stanley, Treasurer. The lodge meets on Friday evening on or before each full moon.

A lodge of the Anti-Horse Thief Association meets monthly, alternately at Wirt and at the Ozier school-house.

Following are the business firms of 1886: Hughey & Son, general store and creamery; A. M. Bruce is manager of the creamery; M. Buck & Son, hardware; Mrs. Wisteria House, postmistress; F. E. Newman, grocery and notions; Oliver Scott, general store; W. H. Waller, grocery and meat-market; A. J. Hess, Ohio House; F. F. Houke, blacksmith; W. L. Embree, lumber; C. F. Cone, blacksmith; A. J. Hess, livery; C. A. Jackson, station agent; William House, barber.

BEACONSFIELD.

This is a station on the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad, and was laid out as a village by a town company in 1881. It has one store and postoffice, blacksmith shop, grocery and United Brethren church.

DELPHOS.

This little village is on the Grant City Branch, between Mt. Ayr and Redding, five miles from the latter and eight from the former. It was platted in 1880, by the railroad company, and Frank Jordan was the first to locate here, putting up a residence and blacksmith shop. M. Rush was the first merchant. There are now three stores, kept by J. W. Bowman, M. Rush and M. Evans. I. M. Long has an elevator, M. Harrington a blacksmithy, T. Bolt a wagon shop, and D. Schlappie a hotel. Frank Leaton is postmaster, and W. H. Palmer is station agent. The Baptists have a church here, erected in 1883, at a cost of $800. Services are held every two weeks, by Rev. William Golding, of Redding.

RINGGOLD CITY

was laid out in 1855 by Sanford Harrow, who started a general store and did a very extensive business for a number of years. The credit system, however, caused his final failure. A postoffice was established here in 1858, which has been maintained since. There was a store here until four or five years ago, but now there is nothing in the way of business—only three or four farm houses. The site is on section 28, Lott's Creek Township.

CALEDONIA.

This village was also laid out in 1855, by Peter Walters, and a postoffice established soon after. Walters was postmaster until his death, some years later. There have usually been two stores here. They are now owned by Andrew Foster and G. S. Moore. There is also a harness shop and blacksmith shop. Caledonia is on section 11, Lott's Creek Township. Some of the first settlers of Ringgold County located in this vicinity.

LESAN.

This is a station on the Grant City Branch of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, five miles east of Mt. Ayr. There is no side track here, and no village. There is a combined residence, store and postoffice. Arthur Lesan sells merchandise here on commission for George A. Slentz, of Mt. Ayr.

OTHER PLACES.

Kew is a station and postoffice on the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad. Wilson Dunlap has the store and postoffice. There are two or three residences. Eugene is a postoffice northeast of Kew, and contains two residences. James Milligan has the store and postoffice. Blackmore, Clipper, Ingart, Maloy, Mortimer, Riley and Thomas are postoffices, some in farm houses, and some at solitary stores.

HISTORY

OF

UNION

COUNTY

BIOGRAPHICAL

SKETCHES.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JAMES BIRNEY HARSH was born in Clinton County, Ohio, September 8, 1845. He was named for James G. Birney, of Michigan, candidate of the Abolitionists for President, in 1840, and again in 1844. He retained the initial letter "G" in his name until after his tenth year, when he discontinued its use as a part of his name. His mother's uncle, Francis J. Le Moyne, of Pennsylvania, was the candidate for Vice-President on the ticket with Mr. Birney, which fact doubtless had something to do with the selection of the name.

While James was yet a prattling child his father, Daniel Harsh, died. Soon after his father's death his widowed mother moved to Bureau County, Illinois. The family consisted of the mother, five boys and two girls. The country was new and the schools poor, but the subject of this sketch managed to acquire a fair education. He, in common with other boys in the neighborhood, worked on the farm in summer and attended the district school in winter. At the age of sixteen he taught a term of school, and thereafter made teaching his principal business during the fall and winter months, and was employed at farm work in the spring and summer.

While yet in his teens and as soon as his age entitled him to do so, he enlisted as private in Company K, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered out as Orderly Sergeant with his company in September, 1865, and immediately resumed teaching school. He had made teaching his business principally to allow himself the opportunity of pursuing certain studies. It was his habit to devote all of his leisure time during a term of teaching to the close study of some of the higher branches of an English education. So successful had he thus been in acquiring knowledge contained in books that his services were sought by the trustees and school directors of the best schools in the towns and villages. Desiring to further improve his mind he entered Lombard University, at Galesburg, Illinois. This institution was, and is, one of the most desirable places for higher education to be found in the West. Having finished the studies he desired to pursue at the university, he sought and obtained employment in a commercial school of that city. The school had but a limited patronage, but where known was recognized as one of the best of its class. Mr. Harsh at this time conceived the idea of making a business of this kind of school work for a few years to enable him to support himself while engaged in the study of law.

Acting on this idea, he founded what was then, and is still, known as "The Western Business College." The small school before named was merged in the new institution, a

competent force of instructors employed and a system of advertising inaugurated that brought students from all parts of the country. To give an idea of the importance of the school and the character of the work it is only necessary to state that during the school year 1867–'8 there were upon the rolls the names of 1,352 students, and the graduates readily found positions in the stores and banks not only of Galesburg but wherever the school was known. During the time Mr. Harsh was president of the Western Business College he prepared and published: "Harsh's Bookkeeper's Manual" and "Harsh's Business Arithmetic," works which are still in use. Incidentally it may be mentioned that more than a score of his former students are citizens of Union and adjoining counties.

In the early part of 1869, Mr. Harsh resigned his position in the college to accept a position in the office of E. C. & C. L. Davidson, private bankers and land brokers, at a salary of $2,000 per annum. At the time Creston was laid out he became acquainted with the future prospects of the embryo city and determined to locate at this point. Accordingly, he arranged his affairs and set his face toward Union County, Iowa. He arrived at Afton in the last days of the year 1870, only to find that the fire which had burned the railroad depot the night before had consumed all his household goods and his private and law libraries, as well as his wearing apparel, except that contained in two trunks. A telegram was handed him offering him his former situation at increased salary. Before him was the bleak, frozen prairie and strangers; behind him the warm, snug, cozy suite of offices at Galesburg, with an assured income. A few hours were spent in consultation with his plucky wife (his family at this time consisted of his wife and one child, having been married something over a year) and the decision was reached that "they had come to Union County to stay." He immediately opened a land office in Creston under the style and firm name of J. B. Harsh & Co. At that time it was the generally-accepted opinion that the land around Creston was of inferior quality. Mr. Harsh had previously satisfied himself that the soil was of excellent quality and unsurpassed as grass and farming land. He at once set about changing public opinion. He advertised extensively and conducted a voluminous correspondence. His wide personal acquaintance in Illinois and the reputation he had acquired through his school throughout the Northwest enabled him to reach the ears and get the attention of many persons contemplating moving West. He attracted hundreds to this locality and settled them upon the farms they now occupy. As a result there are but few tracts of land within a radius of twenty miles of Creston that have not at one time or another passed through his hands. Nor did he confine his operations to farm lands. He has been instrumental in laying out and selling eleven additions to Creston, and thus became as well acquainted with the inhabitants of the town as with the citizens of the surrounding country. "He has helped many a man to a home" is a saying of him, heard many times by the writer hereof.

He was admitted to the bar of Union County soon after becoming a resident, and enjoyed for many years a large and lucrative law practice. It was his intention, when he came to Iowa, to make this his exclusive business, but circumstances decreed otherwise. In 1874 he opened, in connection with Mr. M. T. Perrin, a private bank under the firm name of Harsh & Perrin, bankers and land brokers. After two or three years he bought his partner's interest, and the business was continued under the firm name of J. B. Harsh & Co. In December, 1882, the private bank was merged into The Creston National Bank, with Mr. Harsh at its head. At this date, August, 1886, J. B. Harsh is

known in business and social circles as follows: President of the Creston National Bank; president of the Creston Loan & Trust Co.; president of the Creston Library Association; president of the Association of Veterans of Southwestern Iowa and Northwestern Missouri; editor of the Creston daily and weekly *Gazette;* and treasurer of the Union County Coal and Gas Mining Company. Many of the above institutions were founded by him, notably the Creston *Gazette*, which was started as a weekly newspaper, in 1873.

In public matters Mr. Harsh has ever been prominent and public-spirited. His voice and influence have always been on the side of law and order. He held the office of justice of the peace during the pioneer days of Creston, and did much to organize society and lift it above the lawlessness and Sabbath-breaking so common in new communities. During his first term as mayor of Creston the present fire department was organized, and the Babcock fire extinguisher purchased. The high license, which was in vogue before the present prohibitory law, was also a measure of his creation during that time. Though an ardent prohibitionist in principle he became convinced that high license for that time and people was the best thing obtainable, and the liquor and billiard license was fixed at $1,000 per annum. Succeeding city administrations increased the sum until $1,600 was reached, which is believed to have been the highest in the world. When, however, the hour came to act on prohibition as a State measure, Mr. Harsh voted and worked for it, as he afterward gave of his influence, money and voice to enforce it. In 1882 he was again called to the mayoralty against his expressed inclinations and wishes. On the occasion of his last election he received a greater majority than did his opponent, though his competitor was a popular—justly so—and distinguished citizen. It was conceded that the year was signalized by work of unprecedented magnitude. The finances of the city were put on a firm basis, and the debt funded at a lower rate of interest. Provision was made for effectual quarantine against contagious diseases; water mains and hydrants so placed and provided with water as to protect the city from fire; a safe, healthy place for petty criminals secured; the city surveyed and grade established, most of the streets in business portion placed at grade; new laws enacted, arranged and indexed, and a system of municipal bookkeeping provided. He was a member of the School Board of Creston for a number of years, and lent valuable aid in forming the present course of study. He resigned as a member of the Board of Education so soon as he felt that the schools were on a firm and enduring basis.

Mr. Harsh was married July 1, 1869, to Miss Anna E. Slater, daughter of Dr. S. D. Slater, of Galesburg, Illinois. They have living, a son, Samuel D., and a daughter, Grace S.; a younger daughter, Clara, died at the age of four years. Mr. Harsh is a member of the Masonic order and of the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics he is a Republican. In religion he is a Universalist, he and his estimable wife both being members of the First Universalist Church of Galesburg, Illinois, with which they have never severed their connection for the reason that there has been no church of that denomination in their present place of residence. Mr. Harsh has a pleasant home at the corner of Pine and Fremont streets in Creston.

JOHN J. THOMPSON, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Jones Township, resides on section 31, where he owns 400 acres of well-cultivated land. He was born in Parke County, Indiana, October 22, 1836. His father, Nathaniel Thompson, was a native of Kentucky, and his mother, Lucy (Jones)

Thompson, of Virginia. She died when he was but a year old. He was brought upon the farm, and when he attained the age of sixteen years, he accompanied his father and stepmother to Wapello County, Iowa, where they remained one year, when they settled in Union County. His father died in 1864. Mr. Thompson was married in 1860, in Afton, to Miss Melissa J., daughter of Benjamin and Melinda Shepard, natives of Ohio. Mr. Thompson and his wife are members of the Evangelical church; he is a Democrat, and has held most of the school and township offices, and has also been a director of the Agricultural Society. He is esteemed as a social gentleman, an enterprising and successful farmer and a valuable citizen. His seven children, six of whom are living, —Lizzie, deceased; Malinda A., George N., Emma M., Estella M., Hattie L. and Morris C.

WILLIAM N. KELLEY, dry-goods merchant, Creston, Iowa, settled here in 1871, and engaged in the mercantile trade with Mr. Becker, now of the Summit House, as partner, the firm being Kelley & Becker. In 1879 Mr. Kelley purchased Mr. Becker's interest and conducted the business alone, successfully, two years. In 1881 Mr. Hopkins became a partner, and the firm name was Kelley & Hopkins. At the expiration of about two years this partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Kelley again resumed business alone. He was compelled to start on a small scale, but his experience had been of great value to him. He is active and energetic, and possesses a thorough knowledge of the business in which he is engaged. He believes in liberal, judicious advertising; his store is a model for neatness, order and system. His location is on North Maple Street, Nos. 122 and 124. He first opened his business on Pine Street, and still owns the building he occupied there. He built that portion of the brick block on Maple Street which he owns and occupies, at a cost of $20,000. He has done considerable toward building up and improving the town. He owns a fine residence on Adams Street, which he erected, digging the basement with his own hands, and also doing much of the carpenter work; he also built two other residences on Adams Street. In 1880 he and his brother, M. L. Kelley, built the Pearl flouring mill in that city, the whole of which he at one time owned. He owns several valuable business lots in town. Mr. Kelley has been connected with several enterprises of public interest; he was prominent among those who were instrumental in establishing the telephone at Creston. He was born in Butler County, Pennsylvania, in 1852. When sixteen years of age he went to Allegheny City, and was two and a half years connected with the drug business, and for two years was cashier and bookkeeper for Boggs & Buhl. He then came West, accompanied by Mr. Becker, and when he arrived here his cash capital was only $250, having been unfortunate in his investments. September 14, 1876, Mr. Kelley was married to Miss Clara V. Hopkins, of Allegheny City, Pennsylvania. They have three children—John, William N., Jr., and Olive V. Their second child, Clara N., died in infancy.

JACOB BALLY, one of the leading agriculturists of Lincoln Township, living on section 3, is a native of Germany, born near the river Rhine, April 6, 1820. In 1832 his father, Samuel Bally, immigrated to America with his family, and settled in Ashland County, Ohio, where he died, May 9, 1846. Our subject, Jacob Bally, received a fair common-school education, attending school in Germany, and also in this country. He grew to manhood in Ashland County, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits, remaining in that county till 1849. He then went to Woodford County, Illinois, and in 1856

came to Iowa, locating in Adair County, eight miles north of his present farm. He was married, in 1858, to Miss Christina Butler, a daughter of the late Peter Butler, who died in Mahaska County, Iowa. Of the three children born to this union two are living, Joseph T. and Emma S., both being prominent teachers. Joseph married Miss Clara Hayden. Mr. Baily came to Union County in 1872, settling on the farm where he has since resided, which he has converted from a state of nature into a well-cultivated farm. He was one of the first settlers of Adair County, settling there when the surrounding country was in a wild state, deer, wolves, and other wild animals being numerous. He has met with success in his agricultural pursuits, and is now the owner of a fine farm of 160 acres. Both he and his wife are members of the Evangelical Association, and respected members of society.

JAMES M. BARR, partner of S. J. Bayles in a general mercantile business at Cromwell, was born in La Salle County, Illinois, in 1857. His father, Henry W. Barr, is a native of Pennsylvania, and his mother, Elmira (Grable) Barr, was born in Ohio, and died in 1873, at the age of thirty-seven years. His father is living in Missouri, where he is a land speculator, owning about 3,000 acres of land. Mr. Barr, of this sketch, is the eldest of six children in his father's family. When he was ten years old his parents moved to Adams County, Iowa, where he resided until 1871. He then resided in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, until 1874; next in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, until 1876, when he finally settled in Union County. He pursued agriculture, the occupation of his youth, until 1871, when, his father being engaged in mercantile business, he entered the store as clerk. At present he and his partner carry a general stock in their line, and are commanding a good trade. Mr. Barr owns a house and lot at Cromwell; is a member of Cromwell Lodge, No. 237, I. O. O. F., at Cromwell, and is highly respected as a good citizen. In 1882 he married Miss Susie L., daughter of Pressley O. and Lucinda Wright, who reside in Cromwell; she was born in 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Barr have one child, named Buena E.

ISAAC REYNOLDS, farmer and miller, resides on section 36, Pleasant Township, where he owns a farm of 217 acres, and also a grist-mill. Postoffice, Hopeville, Clarke County. He was born in Hendricks County, Indiana, and reared on a farm in Morgan County, that State, until he became a young man. In the last-named county his parents, Henry and Mary (Jones) Reynolds, died. He immigrated west, to Keokuk, Iowa, in 1848, and a short time afterward removed to Mahaska County, where he managed a mill one year; next he was in Keokuk again a short time, then two years in Jasper County, then in Keokuk the third time, then, in 1854, he settled in Ringgold County, Iowa, where he resided nine years; and finally, in 1863, he located at his present place. Being a self-made man and starting in life without a dollar, he has exhibited marvelous talent in his lines of business, meeting with the losses he has and yet has his head far above the waves of vicissitude. The mill which he bought when he came to Union County burned down, leaving him $11,000 in debt. He has held the office of road supervisor, and other township and school offices; is a member of the order of Freemasons, of Concordia Lodge, No. 215, and both himself and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. She relates that in pioneer times she had to "paddle" the Indians out of her house; they were such lazy beggars that they were a constant pest. She can talk in the language of two different tribes — the Pottawattamie and one other.

Her maiden name was Lavina Costeel, being the daughter of John and Mary (Hardesty) Costeel, natives of Ohio. She was born in the State of Indiana, in 1829, and her parents subsequently moved from that State to Missouri, in 1840, then to Iowa in 1842. Her marriage to Mr. Reynolds took place in 1848, in Mahaska County, Iowa, where the marriage license was No. 150 for that county. Their children are—John H.; William H., who married Susan Arnold and has five children — William, Thomas, Lata, Pearl and Elva; Mary E., wife of Charles Lawrence, and has four children —Henrietta, Emma, James C. and Nina J.; Emma married George Chew, and they have three children—Ethel, Frances M. and Floyd B.; Eliza J. is the wife of Edward Arnold, and they have one child, Fredrick R.; Cynthia Ann is the wife of Wesley Chew and they have one child, named Isaac; Josephine married Samuel Swank and has two children—Nora and Elger; the remaining children of Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds are Isaac A., Charles F. and James W., ten in all.

BURR FORBES, farmer and stock-raiser, section 17, Sand Creek Township, was born in the town of West Union, Steuben County, New York, in the year 1842. In 1850 he was taken by his parents to Bureau County, Illinois, with whom he remained till twenty years of age, when he went to Alfred Center, New York, and attended school at that place for two years. The following five years he spent teaching school, working on the farm by the month, and on the road as contracting agent, visiting twelve different States. He then came to Iowa, and after farming one year in Jasper County he came to Union County, where he has since resided. He was married in Illinois, to Miss Melinda Umbarger, whose father was born in Pennsylvania, June 25, 1803, and is now living in Putnam County, Illinois. Her mother was born October 23, 1805, and is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Forbes have three children—Frank E., aged sixteen years; Lenora K., aged eleven years and Lillie C., aged nine years. Mr. Forbes is one of the prominent farmers and stock-raisers of his township, and in his agricultural pursuits he has met with good success. His farm is among the finest in the township, and contains 480 acres of choice land, and his barns and farm buildings are large and commodious. In politics Mr. Forbes is a Republican.

ABRAHAM E. KEITH, the present mayor of Creston has been identified with its interests since February, 1876. He is engaged in the boot-and-shoe trade, and is one of the most successful business men of Creston. His location is on Front or Adams street, and his stock of goods, in extent and completeness is probably the finest in Marion County. Mr. Keith is a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, born in December, 1832. His father, Alexander Keith, was a native of Virginia, and was one of the pioneers of Columbiana County. He died in 1882. His mother, Eliza (Bail) Keith, resides in Muscatine County, Iowa, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. There were nine children in the family of Alexander Keith, three sons and six daughters, all of whom grew to maturity. Mr. Keith came to Iowa in 1853, first settling in Linn County, thence to Cedar County, thence to Muscatine County, where the greater part of his life in Iowa was spent, previous to coming to Creston. He was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, enlisting in August, 1862, a member of Company H, Eleventh Iowa Infantry, and rose from a private to the First Lieutenancy. His regiment was attached to the Army of the Tennessee in the Seventeenth Army Corps. He participated in many of the important events of the war, including the siege of Atlanta and Sherman's march to the sea. At the close of the war he returned

to Muscatine County. In the fall of 1865 he was elected sheriff of that county, and served in that capacity six years, he then engaged in the lumber and hardware trade at West Liberty, in which he continued until he came to Creston. Mr. Keith has shown great ability as an executive officer, and his success in this direction is admitted by all. He was married in West Liberty, January 1, 1860, to Margaret Miller, a native of Virginia. They have four children—Edwin C., Wilford K., George M. and Louisa J. In politics Mr. Keith is a Republican.

WILLIAM M. WICKHAM, section 1, Highland Township, was born in Hancock County, Ohio, March 1, 1835. His father, Minor T. Wickham, was a native of Seneca, New York, and when a child ten years old, accompanied his parents to Portsmouth, Ohio, and after reaching manhood, went to Hancock County, and helped to raise the first cabin in Findlay. When our subject was three years old his parents moved to Champaign County, Ohio; in the fall of 1854 to Dubuque County, Iowa, and thence, the following June, to Union County, where he has since lived. At the time of his coming to Union County, there were but two houses in Afton, and the deer and wolves roamed at will on the present site of Creston. He slept for some time in his wagon, until he could build a house, and his visits by the wolves were of nightly occurrence. There were no mills in the county, and he was obliged to go to Missouri, a distance of about seventy miles, to buy corn and buckwheat, which constituted their breadstuff. For some years after coming to the county he sold his hogs to drovers who took them to Keokuk. He has often sold corn in Afton for 15 cents a bushel, and butter for 3 cents a pound, taking the proceeds in goods. He was a poor man when he came to Iowa and split rails to get the money with which to pay for his land. He was ambitious, and persevered in spite of the obstacles he encountered, and to-day has a fine farm as the reward for his toil, and the many hardships he was obliged to undergo, he and his wife together owning 248 acres of choice land. He is engaged in general farming, but makes a specialty of stock-raising, having some of the best grades on his farm. He enlisted in the defense of the Union in the war of the Rebellion, and was assigned to Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and served three years, participating in the battles at Helena, Little Rock, Little Missouri, Poison Springs, Jenkins' Ferry, siege of Mobile and others of minor importance. He was married, March 14, 1858, to Lucretia Emerson, daughter of Jasper Emerson, of Highland Township. To them were born seven children, but four of whom are living—Jasper E., Willie G., Walter L. and Nannie M. Mrs. Wickham died October 1, 1874, and January 9, 1876, Mr. Wickham married Arletta F. Philbrick, a native of Hillsboro, New Hampshire, daughter of Josiah Philbrick. Mr. Wickham is a member of the Christian, and his wife of the Free-Will Baptist church.

T. S. REX, lumber-dealer, is one of the early settlers of Creston, the date of his advent being August 4, 1870. He is also one of the successful business men of the town, which was less than two years old when he came, and but few of the present residents date their coming as early as Mr. Rex. Colonel Swan was then keeping the Creston House, and Mr. Rex engaged to work for him, receiving $1 a day for his services. During the following spring he was employed as clerk for the ticket agent. He then embarked in the drug business with Colonel Swan, and about a year later bought out the Colonel and was for some time engaged in the drug trade. But Mr. Rex is better known as

a business man by his connection with the lumber trade of Creston, with which he became identified in 1874. Two years later he sold out and engaged in the coal trade for a time. He was next employed as clerk for O. Q. Holman about three years, when Mr. Holman sold out to the White Pine Lumber Company, and Mr. Rex conducted the business for the company about eighteen months, when the Rex Lumber Company was formed. This company was composed of Mr. Rex and Messrs. Anderson & White, of Montrose, Iowa. In August, 1886, Mr. Rex became sole proprietor of the business, having purchased the interests of his partners. He was the owner of but a few dollars when he came to Creston, but he possessed good health, energy and a determination to succeed. Doing whatever he could find to do to earn an honest dollar, and improving business opportunities as they presented themselves, he has risen to the front ranks among business men of Creston. Mr. Rex has been twice married. He was first married at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, January 10, 1865, to Miss Eliza Payne, a graduate of the Wesleyan University of that town. She died July 13, 1869, leaving a son and daughter—George, who is in the office of his father, and Blanche, who died at the age of twelve years. In October, 1874, Mr. Rex married Sarah Kitchen, of Mount Pleasant. This union has been blessed with four children—Annie, Harry, Edna and C. S., Jr.

WILLIAM F. PATT, real-estate dealer and insurance agent, also agent for the sale of land and lots for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, established his business at Creston, in October, 1881. He is located in Patt's block, on Adams Street. He has been a resident of Creston since 1880. He does a large business both in real estate and the insurance business. His city patronage is large. Mr. Patt is a brother of J. H. Patt, and was born in Rhode Island. When thirteen years of age he removed with his parents to Tiskilwa, Bureau County, Illinois. In 1869 he went to Bradford, Illinois, and was engaged in the mercantile trade until he came to Union County. He was married in Illinois to M. J. Newman, a native of Chautauqua County, New York. They have five children—William N., in a bank in Kansas City; Herbert, assisting in his father's office; Charles E., Ralph H., and Edith Pearl. James and Geneva are deceased.

ROBERT J. McKEE is the senior member of the firm of McKee & Emerson, dealers in boots, shoes, clothing, and gentlemen's furnishing goods, at Afton. In 1880 Mr. McKee engaged in business under the firm name of George Brown & Co. In February, 1884, he purchased the interest of his partner, and in September of that year, sold a half interest to his present partner, Mr. Balt Emerson. He has been a resident of Union County since March 22, 1867. He was born in Brown County, Ohio, in January, 1843. His father, Peter McKee, is also a native of Ohio, and now resides in Adams County, same State. Robert was reared on a farm in Adams County. In October, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Seventieth Ohio Infantry, for three years; at the end of that period he veteranized, and served until the close of the war. His entire term of service covered a period of four years. His regiment was attached to the Fifteenth Army Corps, and participated in many of the most important battles of the war. His first battle was at Shiloh, in the whole of that two days' terrible fight, his regiment being in General Sherman's division; thence to Corinth, participating in the siege of that place. Here he was slightly wounded. Thence to Memphis, Tennessee. Then followed the siege of Vicksburg.

where his regiment assisted in protecting the rear of Grant's army from the Confederate General Johnson. After Vicksburg, followed the movement to Jackson, Mississippi, thence to Chattanooga, taking part in the battle of Mission Ridge, under General Sherman, thence to Knoxville to relieve the troops at that place, thence to Scottsboro, Alabama. At the battle of Kenesaw Mountain he was wounded in the arm. July 28, 1864, he was severely wounded in the left hip at Ezra Chappell, General Logan being then in command of the Fifteenth Corps. In consequence of this wound he was unable to undergo the fatigue of the march to the sea, and was sent home. In February, 1864, he had so much improved that he was enabled to rejoin his regiment at Beaufort, South Carolina. He was at the burning of Columbia, South Carolina, and took part in the severe battle of Bentonville, marching on to Washington and taking part in the grand review; thence to Louisville, Kentucky, and on to Little Rock where he was mustered out with his regiment in September, 1865. He has never fully recovered from the effects of his wound, and receives a pension therefor. At the close of the war he returned to Ohio, and came to Union County in March, 1867. He settled in Grant Township, and engaged in farming. Mr. McKee was elected Sheriff of Union County in 1877, and served four years, making a popular and efficient officer. Mr. McKee was married to Edith M. Lavy, daughter of Hinton Lavy, of Afton. They have two children—Edgar and Walter.

HERMAN MIELKE, farmer, resides on section 5 of Pleasant Township, where he owns 240 acres of finely-cultivated land. Born in Germany in 1842, he came in 1867, to America, settling where he at present resides. He started in life a poor man, having only twenty-five cents when he landed in America; but by hard labor, and fair dealing, and good management, he has amassed a handsome property. He is withal a liberal man, never refusing to contribute to any and all enterprises he considers worthy of patronage. He is classed among the "solid" men of Union County. He is a Democrat, and both himself and wife are members of the Evangelical church. Postoffice, Afton. Mr. Mielke was married in 1867, to Mary E. Shilling, who was born in Germany, in 1838. Their three children are—Emma, Charles and Nellie. Mrs. Mielke has two children by a former marriage—Henry and Lou.

WILLIAM W. BARBER, section 11, Highland Township, was born in Licking County, Ohio, January 16, 1839, a son of James and Anna (Williams) Barber, his father a native of Virginia, and his mother of Muskingum County, Ohio. He was reared and educated in his native State, remaining there until twenty years of age, and in 1859 came West, as far as McLean County, Illinois, and in 1861 came to Iowa and located in Union County. After the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion he enlisted in the defense of the Union, and was assigned to Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and served three years. He participated in the battles at Helena, Arkansas, Little Rock, Jenkins' Ferry, Camden, Spanish Fort, Mobile, Fort Blakely and others of minor importance. He was a brave soldier, always at his post when duty called, but escaped uninjured, save a slight wound. After his discharge from the army he returned to Iowa and has since given his attention to farming. He now owns eighty-five acres of good land, with a pleasant residence and comfortable farm buildings. He was married June 28, 1866, to Mrs. Nancy J. Denel, daughter of Jasper P. and Eliza Emerson, and widow of James H. Denel. She is a

native of Licking County, Ohio, where she was reared. She is a refined, cultured lady, and before her marriage to Mr. Barber was a school-teacher, and taught several years in Union and Madison counties. She taught the first school in District No. 1, then a part of Lincoln Township. The noted Indian chief, John White, was one of her pupils. She has one son by her first marriage—Harry J. Deuel, now manager of Lombard's Investment Company, of Larned, Kansas. The only child born to Mr. and Mrs. Barber, James W., died in the fourth year of his age. Mr. Barber is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

STEPHEN J. BAYLES, senior member of the general mercantile firm of Bayles & Barr, of Cromwell, was born in Adams County, Ohio, February 15, 1845, a son of James Bayles, who was a native of the same county. He accompanied his parents to Henry County, Illinois, in 1855, and there grew to manhood, receiving his education in the common schools and at the Academy at Monmouth, Illinois. In 1867 he left Henry County, coming to Union County, Iowa, when he located at Afton, and engaged in the mercantile business at that place for a time, when he went on a farm, locating in Douglass Township, in 1874. Mr. Bayles was first married in the fall of 1868, to Miss Louie M. Abbey, a daughter of Ebenezer Abbey. She died November 11, 1872, leaving one son—Adelbert F. Mr. Bayles was again married December 2, 1875, to Miss Jennie M. Ingham, a daughter of Charles Ingham, of Afton, and to this union have been born four children—Lula M., Sylvia G., Frank L. and Bert L. Mr. Bayles went to Barber County, Kansas, in the fall of 1884, where he remained one year, returning to Union County and locating at Cromwell in the fall of 1885. He engaged in his present business with his partner, Mr. Barr, in August, 1886. They carry a full stock of general merchandise, and have the finest store in the village, and by their gentlemanly manners and strict attention to the wants of the public they are building up a good trade. Mr. Bayles still owns his farm on section 16, Douglass Township, which contains 160 acres of choice land.

JAMES F. CREEL, merchant at Afton, is one of the early settlers of Union County, having been engaged in business at Afton since 1859. At that time he became manager of the mercantile business of Howe & Richards. In 1864 Mr. Richards became sole proprietor, and Mr. Creel remained in charge of the business until 1867, when he purchased an interest, and the firm became Richards & Creel. In 1871 I. N. Rice became a partner, and the firm name was S. Richards & Co. In 1874 Mr. Creel retired from the firm and it became Richards & Rice. In 1878 Mr. Richards again became sole proprietor, but Mr. Creel continues to manage the business, assisted by G. L. Barnum. Mr. Richards is a non-resident, and seldom indicates by his presence that he is an interested party in the business. At one time an interval of nine years elapsed between his visits, showing emphatically his confidence in the management of the business. This is one of the largest as well as one of the oldest mercantile firms in Union County. Mr. Creel has been a resident of Afton since September 29, 1859. No railroad had reached the city at that time, and the old-fashioned stage was the vehicle that enabled the traveler to go to and fro. Mr. Creel was born at Culpeper Court-House, Virginia, May 29, 1831. His father, Matthew Creel, was a native of Fauquier County, same State, where he was reared, removing to Culpeper County when a young man. In 1847 he removed to Taylor County, West Virginia,

where he passed the remainder of his life. Mr. Creel's mother, Ann (Adams) Creel, was also a native of Fauquier County, and died when her son was three years of age. The father was three times married. To the first marriage were born four children, three sons and one daughter, of whom James F. was the second son and third child. The oldest son, Charles W., died in Grafton, Taylor County, Virginia; the sister is now Mrs. Sarah A., widow of John Towles, and resides near Grafton, Virginia. Her husband was killed by the railroad cars. Matthew J., the youngest, is a resident of Richmond, Ray County, Missouri. To the second marriage were born eleven children, six of whom are living, and to the last marriage one child was born. Our subject was reared in his native State, and in 1854 came to Bentonsport, Van Buren County, Iowa, and here he met Seth Richards, with whom he has been associated so many years. He was married in Bentonsport, August 28, 1856, to Lucy F. Newlon, born in Virginia, and when five years old, removed with her parents to Mansfield, Ohio, where her father died, in 1851. She then removed to Bentonsport with her mother's family. Mr. and Mrs. Creel have had six children, five of whom are living—Charles A., Frank E., Seth W., James C. and Carrie. The second son, Albert B., died in infancy.

WILLIAM M. WILSON, farmer, resides on section 13, Spaulding Township, where he owns 160 acres of well-cultivated land. He was born in England, February 19, 1843, the son of John and Sarah (Merritt) Wilson, natives also of that country. The father at present resides in Denver, and the mother died in England. Mr. Wilson immigrated to America in 1850, in company with a sister, and settled for a short time in Canada; from 1852 to 1872 he resided in La Salle County, Illinois, and finally came to Union County. Here he stands high in the esteem of his fellow citizens, having served as justice of the peace several terms. In religious belief he is a Unitarian, and he seems to be a gentleman well informed on general subjects. In the late war he enlisted, in August, 1862, in Company E, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry Volunteers, and served two years and seven months, participating in the battle of Hartsville, Tennessee, and was taken a prisoner by Morgan's men, being held by them three weeks. He took part also in all the engagements from Murfreesboro to Chattanooga, Tennessee, and also at Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Resaca and Peach Tree Creek. July 20, 1864, he received a wound through the left shoulder, requiring the removal of the entire joint. But eighteen survived a similar operation during the war. Mr. Wilson was married in La Salle County, Illinois, in 1869, to Minerva R. Grier, who was born in that county, in 1850, of parents who were pioneers there. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson's children are five in number—Lavina E., Minerva E., Walter R., William and Raymond A.

WESLEY J. STALCUP, one of the active and enterprising citizens of Dodge Township, residing on section 24, was born near Terre Haute, Indiana, July 20, 1830, a son of Stephen Stalcup, who was a native of East Tennessee. Wesley J. grew to manhood on a farm, and has always followed agricultural pursuits. He received his education in a subscription school, and helped draw the logs to build the log-cabin in which school was held. He left his native State in 1859, going to Davis County, Missouri, and in the fall of 1860 removed to Clarke County, Iowa, thence to Madison County, Iowa, in May, 1861. October 5, 1861, he was married to Miss Mary E.

Spurgin, a daughter of Philip Spurgin. Nine children have been born to this union, of whom eight are still living—Maggie, Emma, Philip and Stephen (twins), Lillie, John, Lemon and James. Both Mr. and Mrs. Staleup are members of the Baptist church. Mr. Staleup came to Union County, Iowa, with his family, in April, 1866, settling on his present farm, where he has 218 acres of valuable land. He is engaged in farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of graded cattle, and is also paying some attention to dairying, and in his farming pursuits is meeting with success. The father of our subject left his native State when a young man and located at Bloomfield, Greene County, Indiana. He was at one time a noted detective. During the war he was an enrolling officer. The Copperheads tried to compel him to promise not to vote for Lincoln's second election, but he vowed to vote for Lincoln if he lived to go to the polls. The Copperheads then burned his barns and fences, killed his hogs, and finally beat him nearly to death, from the effects of which he died, but not until he had cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln.

AARON LEE, farmer, apiarist and horticulturist, on section 35, Jones Township, postoffice Thayer, was born October 8, 1832, in Massachusetts. His parents were James and Betsy Lee, natives of Massachusetts and England respectively. His father was a noted horticulturist and farmer, and his grandfather participated in the battle of Lexington, and served as a privateersman along the Eastern coast, engaged in the capture of several British vessels and cargoes, which were shared among the captors. He once visited his home, near the coast, during the winter months, taking with him sugar, molasses and rum, of each one hogshead, which were freely used to entertain visitors. Was afterward captured and sent to Canada as a prisoner of war, where he remained until its close. While there, in drinking from a spring, he took some insects into his stomach, which caused his death after several years. A post mortem examination revealed the fact that over a quart of these insects were inclosed in a membrane within the stomach. Mr. Lee, the subject of this sketch, was reared to manhood by the seashore, and began the battle of life empty-handed. Possessing naturally a high ambition, and having but limited opportunity for educational and financial advancement, he energetically applied the physical forces of his nature to the attainment of success. When twenty-two years old he went to Southern Minnesota, where he tried fruit-raising, which proved to be not a very successful venture. In 1864 he entered Company C, First Minnesota Infantry, and was with the regiment that was in the last battles of the Rebellion, participating in the engagements at Fort Rice, in front of Petersburg and Richmond, and others of less note. He stood on guard between the opposing armies the night after the surrender at Appomattox. Subsequent to the close of the war, he clerked in a wholesale and general store in Boston for six months. In 1876 he came to Union County, locating on the section above named, where he owns forty acres of land, the greater part of which is used as a nursery for all kinds of fruit trees. Of bees he has eighty stands, one-half of which are the pure Italian breed. Mr. Lee has taught five terms of school, and continues his unabated interest in educational, charitable and public enterprises; is social, genial, and never too proud to notice the needs of the poor and oppressed. As a neighbor and friend he is held in particularly high estimation. His political affiliations are with the Anti-Monopoly party. He married Miss Louisa Boyer in 1858. She was born in New York State in 1832, her parents being John L., a musician in the war of 1812, and Elizabeth Boyer. Of Mr. and Mrs. Lee's eight children seven are living, namely: James

W., who married Alice Medley and has one child, Louisa; John, now a school-teacher, who married Angeline Groves; Edward, Mary E., Otis, Samuel L., and Ada R. Otis is a prominent and well qualified young teacher, having taught several terms.

S. GROVES, M. D., one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Southern Iowa, was born in Perry County, Ohio, February 20, 1834, son of Frederick and Harriet (Selby) Groves. His paternal grandfather emigrated from Virginia to Perry County when Frederick was about fifteen years of age. Our subject worked upon his father's farm in the summer and attended the district school during the winter until he was fourteen years old, when he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade of an elder brother who resided in a neighboring village. He also attended school during most of the winter months, dividing his time between books and the jack-plane. A few years later he taught school, and subsequently attended the University of Ohio at Athens. He taught school and worked at his trade to pay for his tuition and board during the first two years at the University. The last two years in school were passed at the University at Delaware, Ohio, assuming the duties of janitor and otherwise assisting the faculty to pay his expenses. He kept up with his classes all through, but failing health prevented his graduation and he left the University for recuperation. His necessities soon compelled him to seek employment, and he opened a select school at Deavertown, Ohio. At the same time he commenced to read medicine with Dr. Kennedy at that place. One year later he entered the office of Dr. W. H. Holden, at Millerstown, Ohio, and subsequently attended a course of lectures at the Starring Medical College at Columbus. He graduated at the Medical College of Ohio at Cincinnati in March, 1858. He then located at Duncan's Falls and engaged in the practice of his profession. During the first year of his medical college course he married Miss Mary E. Cherry, of Deavertown, a very intelligent and highly cultured lady, the oldest daughter of Judge I. N. Cherry, now of Afton. He continued his practice until 1864, when he was appointed by Governor Stone to the position of army surgeon, where he served until the close of the war. When he came to Afton he united the drug business with his practice, which he continued several years, but now devotes his time exclusively to his profession. His practice is large and lucrative and he has won an enviable reputation both as a physician and as a surgeon. He has not engaged in public affairs to any great extent, but has always manifested a great interest in the cause of education, and was long an active member of the School Board, serving as its president and otherwise. He is a member of the Blue Lodge of Masons, and politically is a zealous Democrat. He has been a member of the Methodist church since he was seventeen years old. Dr. Groves is a man of domestic habits, and is never so happy as when surrounded by his family. He has a beautiful home in the outskirts of Afton, with cultivated grounds, while within are those evidences that ever characterize the man and woman of refinement. He has a fine library of first-class literature, and many treasures of art are among the attractions of his home. The first board of pensions organized at Creston was in July, 1882, and the doctor was made its president, serving three years, when he was removed, and in December following was reappointed and placed on the Chariton board as secretary, a position which he still holds. Doctor and Mrs. Groves have had seven children—four daughters and three sons. William C. died at the age of four years, and L. F. died in infancy. The eldest daughter, Allie H., is a graduate of the Iowa Wesleyan University, having taken the classical course. Since that time she has been engaged as teacher in

one of the schools at Creston. She is also a graduate in music and a teacher of that art. She has recently been appointed postmistress at Afton, *vice* C. K. Ingham, removed. Their second daughter, Mattie, is a graduate of the high school at Afton, and is a teacher in the schools at Creston. The eldest son, Arthur, is a graduate of the Afton high school, and is now assistant postmaster at Afton. Mollie graduated at Afton, and was a student of Simpson College at Indianola, and is now teaching in public schools of this place. Lottie is the youngest child. All have received superior advantages for education and culture, and are being well fitted to take any position in life they desire.

HENRY MURPHY, general merchant, Cromwell, is a native of County Down, Ireland, born April 4, 1847. His father, Patrick Murphy, was also born in County Down, Ireland, and in 1854 immigrated with his family to America, and settled in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was a day laborer in limited circumstances, and died when our subject was very young. After his father's death Henry was sent to the sisters of charity, remaining there till about eight years of age, when he commenced blacking boots and selling newspapers which he followed for sometime, the latter part of this time being on a boat as bootblack and newsboy. He was soon after employed by the engineer to grease the engine. He was subsequently promoted to engineer, which position he held several years, and when twenty-three years old was receiving $21 a week for his services. He followed engineering till within the last thirteen years, most of the time being employed in a rolling mill near Cincinnati, where he received a certificate to the effect that he was a first-class engineer. He came to Union County, Iowa, July 24, 1872, locating at Cromwell, after which he followed farming for three years, and in 1881 he engaged in his present business, carrying a stock of dry-goods, groceries, boots and shoes, hats and caps, queensware and glassware, valued at $1,500, his annual sales amounting to $13,000.

ALBERT C. WHITE, the present deputy sheriff of Union County, is a son of Stephen White, an early settler of Union County, who was born in New Hampshire in 1816, and, when a child, removed with his parents to Vermont, near Montpelier, where he was reared. He was married in Nashua, New Hampshire, to Matilda Cheney, a native of Vermont. His occupation was that of a railroad-bridge builder, an occupation which he followed until he came West. In 1856 he removed to Union County, Iowa, and located on a farm on section 8, Jones Township, known as the Pisgah farm. He purchased 300 acres, 100 of which had been broken and a small frame house had been erected. He lived upon this farm until his decease, which occurred November 20, 1872. His wife died October 10, 1878. He was a man highly respected in the community in which he lived, and made the Golden Rule the measure of his life. He was a consistent and life-long member of the Universalist church. Quite early in life Stephen White took a tour through the West, stopping in Chicago when that great and thriving city was but a hamlet. It was before the days of railroads, when the Erie Canal and the great lakes afforded the means of emigration for the New-Englander. He also visited Kankakee, Illinois, but the country there possessed no attractions for him, and he returned the same year. Mr. and Mrs. White had five children, four of whom grew to maturity, and three are now living—Albert C., Ida, wife of Theodore Depue, and Fred. The last two named are residents of Montana. The deceased are Clarence and Frank; the former enlisted in

Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and died at Island No. 10, at the age of sixteen years, and the latter died when ten years of age. Albert C., the subject of this notice, is the only representative of his father's family now living in Union County. He was born in Washington County, Vermont, March 17, 1844. He has lived in Union County ever since he came with his father in 1856. His general occupation is farming and stock-raising. He owns the Pisgah farm, which contains 207 acres, and he also owns ninety acres near by. He is engaged in feeding Holstein cattle. In 1882 he purchased a pair of this famous breed of cattle, and from these sprung all the cattle of that blood in Union County. He has about 100 grades of this breed. The Pisgah farm has a history. It was the seat of Mormon settlement. These people were attracted to the place by a fine spring. The name Pisgah was given to the settlement, and the name is still applied to the farm and spring. Mr. White married Miss Ellen Burd, daughter of Isaac Burd, of Jones Township, who came in 1856. Mrs. White was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania. They have two children—Gertie and Bertie.

JAMES M. THORNTON, deceased, late of section 12, Lincoln Township, was born in Louisa County, Iowa, March 8, 1845, and died March 16, 1885. When he was quite young his parents, Lot and Frankie (Long) Thornton, died, and he was reared by his uncle, Amaziah Thornton, of Rock Island County, Illinois. He was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, serving for one year in Company I, Twenty-eighth Illinois Infantry. September 2, 1869, he was united in marriage to Miss Viola Seiver, who was born in Rock Island County, a daughter of Jacob A. and Clarissa (Reynolds) Seiver, the father still living in Rock Island County, and the mother deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Thornton were born two children—Ivo Estella, who died December 17, 1885, aged fourteen years, and Francis Glenn, aged twelve years, who lives with his widowed mother on the old homestead on section 12, Lincoln Township. Mr. Thornton came to Union County, Iowa, in 1869, and made his home in Lincoln Township till his death. He was an active and enterprising citizen and gave both time and means to the support of all charitable enterprises and benevolent institutions. He served as township trustee a few years, besides holding other local offices of trust. He was a quiet, industrious citizen, strictly honorable in all his dealings, and during his residence in this county gained the confidence and respect of all who knew him. He left at his death a good farm containing 200 acres, which is now owned and occupied by his widow.

CHARLES BAXTER & BROTHER are the leading farmers and stock-raisers in Grant Township, where they have lived since 1880. They came West in 1865, settling first in Illinois, where they followed stock-raising until they settled in Union County, Iowa, in 1880. They are active and enterprising business men, and by their good business management and persevering energy have met with excellent success in their business. They at present own 711 acres of choice land, all of which is under cultivation. They have on their farm a large number of fine cattle and horses, and are devoting considerable attention to the raising of stock. The Baxter Brothers are much respected throughout the county, where they have made many warm friends. They were born in Muskingum County, Ohio—Charles, born May 3, 1837, and Joshua, the junior of the firm, born May 14, 1845. Their parents, Samuel and Acius Baxter, were natives of Virginia and Maryland respectively, living most of their lives in Ohio, where the father followed farming and

stock-raising. They subsequently removed to Knox County, Illinois, where they lived till their death. Charles Baxter was united in marriage, in 1877, to Miss A. Martin, daughter of William and Drusilla (Pepe) Martin, natives of Pennsylvania and Virginia, now living in Illinois. They have one child, Ethel, born October 13, 1880. Mrs. Charles Baxter is a native of Pennsylvania, born March 30, 1846. Charles Baxter has one of the best residences in his neighborhood, being large, comfortable and convenient. His commodious barn, 80x44 feet, and his other farm buildings are among the best in the county. Both brothers, in their political views, affiliate with the Republican party.

JONATHAN F. ICKIS, the present county treasurer, came to Union County, in 1854. He was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, June 11, 1824. His parents are John and Rachel Ickis, of Afton. He lived upon his father's farm until about thirteen years of age, when the latter sold and engaged in the mercantile business, with his son, Jonathan, as clerk. In 1852 the family immigrated to Lee County, Iowa, and settled upon a farm. In April, 1854, our subject and George Christie came together from Lee County to Union County. Mr. Ickis made a location on section 26, proceeded to Chariton, and made his entry, then, with his companion, returned to Lee County to make preparation for locating upon the land. He returned in June of that year, and found that one John D. Wright, who afterward became a prominent citizen of the county and its first surveyor, had made a claim of his land, and had already located on the place, having built a log cabin and had broken about forty acres. In the fall of 1854 Mr. Ickis pre-empted a quarter-section of land on section 31, and also purchased eighty acres of timber on section 7, Union Township. Timber land was then regarded as a necessity by the settlers, and the prairie land was not fully appreciated. A log house had been built on the eighty acres. Soon after making this location Mr. Ickis returned to Lee County, and in November of that year returned, accompanied by his parents and brother, Alonzo F. They came to make a home on the land Mr. Ickis had located. They removed the log cabin to the land on section 31, and this was the first home of the family in Union County. In January following the father and mother returned to Lee County, and Mr. Ickis' daughter, a girl seven years of age, and his sister Catherine, came to his home. Indians were then numerous; about 300 were near them engaged in hunting and trapping during that winter. The settlers who had preceded Mr. Ickis in Union Township, and those that came the same year he did were Wright, Husband, John Smith, George Smith, Nathaniel Thompson and Joseph Peck. Cyrus Temple was also located on the present site of Afton. Of these pioneers, all that remain besides the Ickis family are Mrs. Husband and a son of Nathaniel Thompson. In 1857 Mr. Ickis located in Pleasant Township where he operated a saw-mill. In 1865 he settled upon a farm in that township which is still his home, his residence at Afton being temporary, or during his official term. He has been connected with the official business of Union County ever since he came. In the spring of 1855 he was appointed to the office of school-fund commissioner, and at the same time he acted as deputy county clerk. He also served as county surveyor, and has twice been on the Board of Supervisors. He is now serving his second term as county treasurer, his first election having been in the fall of 1883. Politically Mr. Ickis is a Democrat. He cast his first presidential vote for General Lewis Cass, in 1848. His first vote was for Governor David Tod, of Ohio, in 1846. He has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Mary Osborn, daughter of Elijah Osborn, of Ohio. She died in Lee County, in 1852, the same

year the family came to Iowa. In 1859 he was married to Mariom Runey, a native of Ohio, born in 1841, and came to Iowa with her parents in 1845. By his first marriage he had three children—Elmedorus C., David, in Nebraska, and Flora J., who married J. M. Meham, of Des Moines. By the second marriage Mr. Ickis has three children—Effie D., wife of Joseph Allen, Nettie and John S.

THOMAS CORT, son of John and Mary A. (Carter) Cort, is a native of England, born August 7, 1837. He spent the first ten years of his life in his native country, and in July, 1848, in company with his parents, boarded the ship, Wyoming, at Liverpool, and August 22, following, landed at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He remained in that State until 1856, when he went to Illinois, where he lived on a farm till 1857. He then immigrated to Iowa, remaining in this State but a short time, when he returned to Illinois. In 1864 our subject enlisted in Company K, Fifteenth Illinois Infantry, and after serving one year received an honorable discharge, at Leavenworth, Kansas, in October, 1865. After the war he returned to Illinois, where he lived till 1869, when he came to Union County, Iowa, and has since resided on his present farm where he now has 120 acres under the best of cultivation, and his residence and farm buildings are comfortable and convenient. Mr. Cort was united in marriage to Miss Anna Boriand, a daughter of James and Margaret (Adams) Boriand, natives of Pennsylvania. To this union have been born nine children—Florence M., born October 9, 1867; Myrta M., born May 4, 1869, died April 16, 1871; James R., born December 31, 1870; Mary A., born January 6, 1873; Margaret E., born December 15, 1874; Charles H., born March 9, 1877; Thomas G., born June 20, 1879, and Alma and Laura (twins), born August 13, 1883. In politics Mr. Cort casts his suffrage with the Republican party. Since coming here he has served acceptably as township assessor and school director, and is at present holding the office of county supervisor, in which he is giving the best of satisfaction to his constituents.

ROBERT MAXWELL, an enterprising farmer of Lincoln Township, living on section 10, was born in Harrison County, Indiana, August 14, 1825, a son of Joseph H. Maxwell, deceased, who was a native of South Carolina, and a pioneer settler of Indiana. He was a wheelwright by occupation and followed his trade for many years. Our subject, Robert Maxwell, received good educational advantages in the common schools and seminaries. In 1842 he accompanied his parents to Clay County, Illinois, removing to Knox County, Illinois, in 1848, where he made his home until 1875. He learned surveying and navigation, and also studied medicine, which he practiced during the war. He was married August 13, 1846, in Clay County, Illinois, to Sarah Maxwell, a daughter of William Maxwell, and of the six children born to this union, five are yet living—Eva, Joseph, Josephine, Maude and William A. Joseph married Eliza Duval and lives in Knox County, Illinois. They have four children. Josephine married J. A. Rusk, of Washington Territory, and has two children. Maude married J. M. Dillow, of Union County, Lincoln Township, and has one child, and William A., living in Lincoln Township, married Lois Smelser, and they are the parents of one son—Seth. Mr. Maxwell enlisted, August 14, 1862, in Company B, One Hundred and Second Illinois Infantry, being in the service until May 19, 1865. He was dispensing clerk and hospital steward in Hospital No. 1, Gallatin, Tennessee, from the fall of 1862 until the last of June, 1863, when he was sent back to his regiment and was on guard

duty principally until January, 1864. He was then detailed to hospital duty in the same capacity as before at the hospital in Smyrna, Tennessee. In February, 1864, he was sent to the Brigade Hospital, at Chattanooga, Tennessee, remaining there till May 10, when he was sent on the Atlanta campaign with the hospital department, and was with Sherman to the sea. He then went with Sherman to Columbus and Raleigh, where he left the hospital department and took charge of the sick and wounded en route to New York, serving in this capacity until his discharge. He left Knox County, Illinois, April 7, 1875, when he came to Union County, Iowa, by team, reaching here April 22. He settled on his present farm in October of the same year, where he owns forty acres of choice land, and within the last ten years has planted every tree, including both forest and fruit trees, on his place. Mr. Maxwell has served one term as county surveyor. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance.

H. I. NANCE, physician and surgeon at Creston, was born in LaFayette, Stark County, Illinois, March 21, 1854. His father, Dr. Hiram Nance, was a native of Indiana. In 1860 the family removed from Stark County to Kewanee, Illinois, where the father continued the practice of his profession until his decease, which occurred April 6, 1886. He was a prominent and well-known physician. Dr. H. I. Nance was educated at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois. He read medicine with his father and graduated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1876, coming to Creston the same year. The parents of Dr. Nance had twelve children; three died in infancy, and seven sons and two daughters are still living. The oldest son, Albinus Nance, was Governor of Nebraska from 1878 to 1882. The doctor is the only one of the family residing in Iowa. He has a large practice and is a popular and successful physician. He is a member of the American Medical Association and of the Society of Physicians and Surgeons, of Southwestern Iowa. He is independent, both in political and religious sentiments, though he generally votes the Republican National ticket. He married Miss Sarah C. Mann, daughter of Joseph Mann, of Montgomery County, Iowa, May 1, 1884, and they have one son—Willis, born June 3, 1886.

JAMES H. CRAWFORD was elected recorder of Union County in 1880, and has been twice re-elected to that position now serving his second year of his third term. His continuance so long in this office is a sufficient indorsement by the people of his faithfulness and efficiency. He is a native of the Empire State, born near Geneva, Ontario County, in 1837. His parents, James A. and Clarissa (Malony) Crawford, also natives of New York, the former of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His paternal grandfather was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and his father in the war of 1812. Mr. Crawford lost his mother by death at the early age of twelve years. When seventeen years of age he went to Danville, Illinois, where he learned the carpenter's trade, and in 1856 he went to Champaign County. June 2, 1862, he enlisted in Company K, Sixty-seventh Illinois Infantry, in the three-months service, but served four months. He was engaged with his regiment in guarding the prisoners confined in Chicago who were captured at Fort Henry and Fort Donelson. From the time of the expiration of his term of service until coming to Union County he was engaged in various pursuits—teaching, carpentering and farming. He came to Union County in 1872, locating at Creston, and for five years was employed in the car shops of the Chicago,

Burlington & Quincy Railroad. He was then engaged as contractor and builder until elected to his present position. Politically he is a Republican, and cast his first vote for Owen Lovejoy for Congress, in 1858. Mrs. Crawford was formerly Miss Rachel W. Crawford, though not a relative. She was a native of Kentucky. Her parents were John and Mary (Suiter) Crawford. The mother is deceased and the father resides with his son-in-law at Afton. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford have had six children, viz: Augustus H., John A., Florence M., Nora A. and Bessie. Dora died in infancy. In the fall of 1844 Mr. Crawford's father removed from the State of New York to Danville, Illinois, where he died in 1855. He and his wife had twelve children, seven daughters and five sons. The daughters were all older than any of the sons. James was the youngest member of the family. Only three are now living—Mrs. Eliza Ward, resides in Peoria, Illinois; Joseph, whose residence is unknown, and James H., the subject of this sketch.

JUDGE GEORGE P. WILSON, the first and present Judge of the Superior Court of Creston, came to Union County, October 16, 1868, locating at Afton, where he engaged in the practice of his profession. In 1872 he came to Creston, where he has since resided. Judge Wilson is a native of Norfolk County, Massachusetts, born September 3, 1841. His father, Enoch Wilson, died when his son was seventeen years of age. At the early age of sixteen he commenced life for himself and his success has been due entirely to his own efforts. In 1860 he went to New York City, where his elder brother was engaged in dentistry. There he remained three years, working for his brother during the day and attending Cooper Institute in the evening. In 1863 he entered the Eastman Commercial College, at Poughkeepsie, New York, where he graduated, and then continued in the college as teacher of mathematics, in the meantime pursuing the study of law. He then entered the law office of his brother, C. C. Wilson, of Kewanee, Illinois, where he prosecuted his studies for some time. He was admitted to the bar in Illinois in 1865, and in 1866 he was admitted to the Iowa bar at Burlington, Judge Francis Springer presiding. Judge Wilson has had considerable experience as a journalist. In the summer of 1868 he was the proprietor and editor of the *Henry County Dial*, Illinois, and at Afton, in 1870, he was interested in the publication of the Afton *News*. After coming to Creston he established the Creston *Democrat*, which he published for several years. He was elected Judge of the Superior Court in the spring of 1876. Politically, Judge Wilson affiliates with the Republican party. He was married in Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1863, to Miss Mary Potter, a niece of Bishop Potter, of New York. His wife died in 1865 at Kewanee, Illinois. In 1866 he married Miss Elizabeth Doyle, of Woodhull, Illinois, and they have three children—Fred, born in 1869; John L., born in 1871, and George E., born in 1879. Judge Wilson is an active, earnest Mason, and at the present time is deputy grand master of the State of Iowa, and is generally loved and respected by his fraternity and by his associates.

DAVID A. PORTER, attorney, has been engaged in the practice of his profession at Creston since 1879. For one year he was the law partner of Judge George P. Wilson, and since that time has been alone in his practice. Mr. Porter was born in Warren County, Illinois, in 1851. He was educated at Monmouth College, and in 1877, immediately after completing his college course, came to Winterset, Madison County, and entered the law office of Ruby & Wilkins as a

student. He was admitted to the bar at Afton in September, 1878, Judge Gregory presiding. He then returned to Winterset, and was for a time employed on a salary in the law office where he had been a student. Mrs. Porter was formerly Miss Mary Murphy, daughter of John Murphy, of Creston. Politically, he is a Republican.

WILLIAM C. McDONALD, proprietor of the Cromwell Mills, at Cromwell, is one of the self-made men of Union County, having commenced life entirely without means, and, by diligence and persevering energy, become one of the prosperous citizens of Cromwell. He was born in Center County, Pennsylvania, March 1, 1857, a son of Dr. John G. McDonald, a native of Ohio. His father has practiced medicine over fifty years, and is now living in Albia, Monroe County, Iowa. Our subject received but limited educational advantages, beginning life for himself at the early age of nine years. He came with his parents to Iowa in 1865, they locating in Albia, where he lived till 1883. He learned the miller's trade with Edwards Brothers, remaining in their employ for nine years, and has followed milling since seventeen years of age. He was united in marriage May 17, 1881, to Emma E. McFadden, a daughter of the late James McFadden. They are the parents of two children—George W. and Floy May. Both Mr. and Mrs. McDonald are members of the Presbyterian church. He is a member of the Odd Fellows' order. The Cromwell Mills, which are now owned and operated by Mr. McDonald, were erected in 1873, by a Mr. Rankin, who soon after sold it to J. C. Williams & Co., the elevator department being added by them in 1878. Mr. McDonald purchased the mill from this firm, and has since operated it successfully. The mill building is 30x40 feet in size and has two and a half stories above the basement and an addition 26x40 feet, twenty-seven feet high. The mill is supplied with the Galesburg, Illinois, boiler, and has five run of burrs, including one Reprople set patented by Sirker, Davis & Co., of Indianapolis, this burr being used for grinding middlings. The engine is forty-horse power, and the mill turns out both custom and merchant work. The mill has a capacity of seventy-five barrels of flour daily, which is of the best quality, being as white and clear as any roller process, and of better grade.

A. PAGE.—Prominent among those who have, by their energy and public spirit, contributed so largely to the building up of the city of Creston stands the name of Mr. Page, the subject of this sketch. He came here from Boone County in the fall of 1875, with a view of locating here should conditions be favorable. Deciding in the affirmative he returned to Boone, and the following spring established his present business here, which is the hide and rendering business. He commenced in a small way, but it has grown to be one of the most important enterprises of Creston. An additional branch of industry was added in 1886, which consisted in the erection of a soap factory by the firm of Page, Derr & Co. This factory has a capacity of 40,000 pounds per week and employs from fifteen to twenty hands. Mr. Page has been identified with several other enterprises. He assisted in organizing the Creston Savings Bank and was made its first president, a position he still holds. He is now sole proprietor of the Creston fair-grounds, which he purchased in 1881. The citizens of Creston are much indebted to Mr. Page for improving and beautifying these grounds. A full account of his connections with them will be found elsewhere in this work. Mr. Page is a native of Susque-

W. A. Page

hanna County, Virginia, where he was born July 23, 1850. His father, Amasa A. Page, was a native of the same county, and his mother, Mary (Miller) Page, was a native of Massachusetts. She died March 19, 1870. Three sons and one daughter were born to these parents. The father remarried, and had two children by the second marriage. Mr. Page left home in 1871, just as he had attained his majority, and began life for himself. In 1876 he settled permanently in Creston. Mrs. Page was formerly Miss Annie Robbins, daughter of C. E. Robbins, of Creston. They have two sons—Ralph and Bayard.

SHELBY WILLIS, farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 21, Pleasant Township, was born in Shelby County, Kentucky, February 29, 1852, his parents being Toliver M. and Sarah J. (Porter) Willis, natives also of that State. His mother died when he was but three years of age, and at the age of four he was taken to Marion County, Indiana, where he lived till he arrived at the age of twelve; from that time until he was seventeen he lived again in his native county, next in Fountain County, Indiana, then Marion County, Iowa, then Jefferson, and finally, in 1861, he settled in Union County. Having but little property with which to start out in the world, he has successfully applied his energies until he has made for himself a comfortable home. February 25, 1864, he enlisted in Company L, Third Iowa Cavalry, and served till the close of the war, participating in the battles of Selma, Alabama; Columbus, Georgia, and Ebenezer Church, Alabama, etc. At home he has served as township trustee, road supervisor, school director, etc. He is a member of the Baptist church, and also of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Willis was married March 22, 1855, to Sarah J. Bradley, a native of Illinois. Their eight children are named Mary E., John A., Etha S., Lucy A., Sarah E., James S., Ima F., and Hattie M. Mary E. married George W. Wilson, November 14, 1881, and their two children are—Lyman E., born October 31, 1883, and Laura G., December 13, 1885; John A. married Mary E. Mewhirter, December 25, 1882, and their daughter, Addie C., was born June 5, 1885; Etha S. married Alfred V. Waln, February 11, 1886.

LEE GREEN GALBREATH, section 18, Dodge Township, was born in Henry County, Kentucky, January 23, 1836, a son of Samuel and Phœbe (Blankinship) Galbreath, the father born in Henry County, Kentucky, in 1808, and the mother a native of West Virginia, born in 1812. They were married August 20, 1829, removed to Southern Indiana in 1836 with their family, remaining there till 1854, when they settled in Des Moines County, Iowa, and in 1857 came to Union County, and settled near Afton. They are still living in Union County, residing on the farm which is occupied by our subject. They had a family of ten children born to them, of whom seven are living. Lee G. Galbreath, whose name heads this sketch, was reared on the home farm in Indiana, receiving his education in the common schools. In 1858 he came to Union County, Iowa, and made his home near Afton. He was married January 5, 1860, to Miss Sarah Meharry, a daughter of the late Samuel Meharry, who was among the early settlers of Highland Township, Union County. Mrs. Galbreath was born in Licking County, Ohio, May 29, 1844, coming with her parents to Washington County, Iowa, in 1855, thence to Monroe County, in 1856, and in the spring of 1858 to Union County, where she still lives. Of the seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Galbreath only four are living—Samuel L., Charles G., Howard E. and Ross. Mr. Galbreath and wife went to the Rocky Mountains

in April, 1869, returning in October the same year to Union County. In 1882 he settled on his farm of forty acres on section 4, living there fourteen years. In 1876 he settled on his farm on section 18, which contains 255 acres of well cultivated land, where he has since followed farming and stock-raising. Mr. Galbreath has held the office of township clerk for fifteen years, was secretary of the School Board about twenty years, and has served as township assessor, besides filling other local offices.

ARTHUR ALLISON, postoffice, Thayer, is a prominent farmer and stock-raiser on section 24 of Jones Township, where he owns 160 acres of well-cultivated land. He was born near Washington, in old Virginia, in the year 1823, son of Benjamin and Mary (Bishop) Allison. The latter was born in Morgan County, Ohio, in which county, in the year 1848, Mr. Allison was married to Sarah Bolinger, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1825. Mr. Allison came to Union County in 1863, where he is now classed among the solid, influential citizens. He is very liberal and sympathetic, and of this excellence of his nature some unappreciative men have taken undue advantage, causing him many losses. Mr. Allison has eight children, as follows: First, George W., who married Deborah Shutz, had two children—Dora and Nora M. His wife died and he subsequently married Elizabeth Weeter, by whom he also had two children—Artie and Clyde. Second, Mary, now the wife of John Reed; their children are five in number, namely—Chester, Ettie A., Sarah, Wallace and Maud. Third, Abram, who married Elizabeth Forgey, and has five children—Zoa, Lillie, Wilber, Sarah E. and James. Fourth, Henry, who married Mary Moler, and their five children are—John, Ollie, Bertie, Dellia and Stella. Fifth, John A., who married Louisa Bishop, and has four children, namely—Roy W., Harry A., Charles H. and Horace. Sixth, Sarah C., who married Charles Cooper, they have one child named Ethel G. Seventh, James M., and eighth, Cora D.

GEORGE MILLER, section 25, Highland Township, was born in Addison County, Vermont, September 5, 1837, a son of Marshall Miller, a native of Williston, Vermont, who was a farmer and surveyor, and helped survey the Western Reserve, in Ohio. Our subject was reared on a farm and was given the advantages of the best schools of his neighborhood, attending the Williston Academy. He taught school two terms in Vermont, and in 1859 went to Texas County, Missouri, where he remained until 1861, when he was obliged to leave on account of his Union sentiments. He returned to Vermont and enlisted soon after in the First Vermont Cavalry, Company L, and served three years. He participated in the battles at Hanover, Gettysburg, Boonsboro, Hagerstown, Fallen Waters, Culpeper Court House, Raccoon Ford, Brandy Station, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Appomattox and others of minor importance. He was a brave and gallant soldier, always at his post when duty called, and although he had many narrow escapes, at one time having his horse shot from under him, he was uninjured. After his discharge he returned to Vermont and engaged in farming for some time, and subsequently for five years was in the mercantile business in Williston. In the fall of 1878 he came to Iowa and located in Union County, on a tract of wild land, which he at once went to work to improve and make a home. He now owns a fine farm of 640 acres, and also 300 acres in Southern Missouri. He makes a specialty of stock-raising, having a fine herd of short-horn cattle.

He was married August 25, 1869, to Hester Clark, a native of Williston, Vermont, daughter of Philo Clark. They have four children—William H., George C., Martha I. and Merwin B. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are members of the Presbyterian church at Afton.

CHARLES K. INGHAM has been a resident of Afton since 1865. He was born in Warren County, New Jersey, March 8, 1842. His father, Samuel D. Ingham, emigrated to Huntington County, Indiana, with his family in 1849, where Charles K. was reared. April 24, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, Ninth Indiana Infantry, for three months, in response to President Lincoln's call for 75,000 men. He served his term of enlistment in West Virginia. September 21, 1861, he re-enlisted in Company G, Thirty-fourth Indiana Infantry, and September 23, 1864, he veteranized and served until August, 1865, serving altogether four years and two months. His first service in the Thirty-fourth was in Kentucky under General Nelson, and he participated in the battle of Mill Springs, where the Confederate General, Zollicoffer, was killed. Immediately after this battle he was put on detached service and made a gunner in a battery, and took part in the second day's battle at Shiloh. After this battle one gun of the battery was disabled and he returned to his regiment at New Madrid, Missouri. He participated in the capture of Fort Pillow, and the Thirty-fourth was the first to enter Memphis in the capture of that city; their flag being the first to float over the Government buildings there. Soon after this event his regiment was sent up White River to meet General Curtis, and operated between that river and Vicksburg until that campaign was inaugurated. He participated in the engagements at Port Gibson and Champion Hills, where his regiment lost heavily. After the siege of Vicksburg he returned with his regiment to Jackson, Mississippi, thence to the Department of the Gulf. At the time of Banks' Red River campaign he was home on a veteran furlough. After the regiment had veteranized it was sent to the Rio Grande in Texas. Here they fought the last battle of the war, known as the battle of White's Ranch, near where the battle of Palo Alto was fought during the Mexican war. Previous to his service in Texas, Mr. Ingham had enjoyed excellent health, and had been constantly in the field from the time of his enlistment. But his health failed during the Rio Grande campaign, and he was discharged for disability in August, 1865, his regiment serving some time longer. He was a gallant soldier and made an honorable record. He has never regained his former health and vigor. In 1864 his father removed to Union County, Iowa, and upon leaving the army he came directly here. He first engaged in farming for three or four years; but his health being still precarious, he went into the farm implement business at Afton, and later in the insurance business, having been special agent for the Phœnix Insurance Company for several years. In business matters Mr. Ingham is accurate and reliable, and as an official, both competent and popular. He was married in 1870 to Emma Ballard, a daughter of S. R. Ballard, who came to this county in 1856. Mrs. Ingham is a native of Ohio, born in 1844. They have two children—Lena and Stephen M. February 28, 1883, Mr. Ingham was appointed postmaster and served creditably; but he has recently been removed, for political reasons only.

WILLIAM GROESBECK, residing on section 19, New Hope Township, is one of the most enterprising and prosperous agriculturists of Union County, where he has made his home since the spring of 1854. He is a native of Ohio, born in

Portage County, July 2, 1829, a son of Garrett L. Groesbeck, who died in this township in 1876. Our subject has lived in the State of Iowa since 1838, his parents coming here in that year, when they settled in Lee County. He received the rudiments of an education, attending in his boyhood the rude log-cabin schools, with their puncheon floors, slab seats and stick and clay chimney. He grew to manhood on the home farm, and early in life learned habits of industry and perseverance, which have been of much benefit to him through life, and have helped him to become one of the largest landholders in his township, and one of the most respected citizens as well. He has made his home in New Hope Township, on the farm where he still resides, since coming to Union County, and is now the owner of 1,000 acres of choice land. In connection with his farming and stock-raising he has of late years been engaged in the manufacture of cheese in which he is meeting with success, his cheese being of a fine quality, and sold at reasonable price. Mr. Groesbeck was united in marriage in the spring of 1855 to Miss Susan C. Fenner, a daughter of Joseph Fenner, deceased, and to this union have been born ten children, of whom four are deceased. The names of those yet living are:—Mercy, Adam F., Walter H., Ruth, Frederick L. and William. Mr. Groesbeck is a member of the Dunkard church, in which he is an elder. Since coming to Union County he has several times been elected to the office of county supervisor. He has also served several years as justice of the peace, and in both offices he has served with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents.

JAMES SYP, an enterprising agriculturist of Sand Creek Township, residing on section 10, is a native of Ohio, born in Miami County January 2, 1830, and there he was reared on his father's farm till twenty years old. He then came with his parents to Henry County, Iowa, and soon after commenced life on his own account, beginning on about six acres of land given him by his father. He was married, April 6, 1854, to Miss Ross, daughter of John and Mary (Perda) Ross, who were both natives of Pennsylvania, the father being a farmer by occupation. Her parents subsequently went to California, where both died. This union has been blessed with five children. Laurena, born June 19, 1855, is the wife of P. Owens; Logan P. was born July 7, 1857; Mary E., was born September 13, 1859; Nettie A., born August 30, 1863, and Vilna R. was born October 8, 1868. Mr. Syp remained in Henry County seven years, and in 1857 came to Union County, and settled southeast of Afton, living there a short time, when he removed to his present farm, where he has since followed farming and stock-raising. His home farm contains 280 acres of choice land. In his religious views Mr. Syp believes in the doctrines of the Seventh-Day Adventists. In politics he affiliates with the Greenback party. The parents of our subject were both natives of Warren County, Ohio, the father born March 7, 1807, died April 31, 1881; the mother born March 27, 1812; died August 9, 1871.

J. V. HOAKISON, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 1, Spaulding Township, where he owns 160 acres of good and well cultivated land. He was born in Sweden, in 1842, the son of Jonas and Carrie Hoakison, who emigrated from Sweden to America in 1849, settling in DesMoines County, Iowa. Jonas Hoakison died December 5, 1865, and his wife, Carrie Hoakison, April 6, 1871. The subject of this sketch lived for awhile in Jefferson County, Iowa, and in 1870 he located where he now resides. He has always been a farmer, and has been successful in his vocation. Commencing in life without a dollar, by the steady habits

characteristic of his nationality, he has acquired a nice property. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Methodist Episcopal church. He enlisted in the late war in 1861, Company C, Fourth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, and served three years, participating in the battle and siege of Vicksburg, Jackson, Mississippi, Guntown, etc., where he was severely wounded. He is a patriot and a highly respected citizen. He was married in 1878, in Jefferson County, Iowa, to Miss Jemima, daughter of Elias and Catharine Rubey, who was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, in 1845. Mr. and Mrs. Hoakison are the parents of three children, named Nellie, Lillie and Alice.

ROBERT M. McKNIGHT, an active farmer and stock-raiser, living on section 26, Lincoln Township, was born July 25, 1844, in Washington County, Indiana, a son of William McKnight, who was a native of Kentucky, and an early settler of Indiana. Our subject was reared to manhood on a farm in his native State, receiving in his youth the benefit of the district schools, where he obtained a common-school education. During the late war he enlisted in the war of the Rebellion in Company B, Sixteenth Indiana Infantry, to serve three years. He participated in twenty hard-fought battles, including Richmond, Kentucky, Arkansas Post, Port Gibson, and was through the Vicksburg campaign, and on the Red River expedition. He was wounded at the battle of Arkansas Post, and to this day carries three small shot in his body which he received there. He was taken prisoner at Alexandria and was kept at Tyler, Texas, thirteen months, leaving that place in an almost naked and starved condition. Mr. McKnight came to Union County in 1866, when he settled in Lincoln Township, and in 1869 settled on his present farm, where he has 130 acres of choice land, and in connection with his general farming he is devoting considerable attention to raising graded stock. Mr. McKnight was united in marriage November 7, 1868, to Miss Rachel Dillow, a daughter of Frederick Dillow, who is deceased. To this union have been born five children, of whom three are living—Isadora, Inistelle, and Myrta M. Flora and Hugh are deceased. Mr. McKnight has served his township as assessor for three years, and has also served as school director and road supervisor for several years.

EDWARD P. WRIGHT, residing on section 16, Sand Creek Township, is a native of Illinois, born in Fulton County January 24, 1834. When eight years old he moved with his parents to Stark County, Illinois, and there he was reared and educated in the common school. He was married in Toulon, Stark County, February 25, 1856, and to Mr. and Mrs. Wright have been born eight children, six of whom are yet living—Freeman P., born in November, 1856; Elva Maria, born in September, 1858; Samuel H., born in October, 1860; Julia M., born on New-Year's Day, 1863; William A., born in May, 1868; Charles O., born on Christmas, 1869; Edward E., born in January, 1872, and Alva M., born in October, 1877. Mr. Wright was a soldier in the late war, being a member of Company G, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois Infantry. He took part in twenty battles and was in ninety-seven skirmishes, receiving a slight wound at the battle of Nashville, Tennessee. He is now a member of Henry Keating Post, No. 211, G. A. R., of Afton. Mr. Wright made his home in Stark and Henry counties, Illinois, until 1885, when he removed with his family to his present farm in Union County, Iowa, where he has 320 acres of tillable land on sections 16 and 21 of Sand Creek Township. In connection with

his general farming he has devoted considerable attention to stock raising, and has on his farm a large number of fine cattle and horses. Mr. Wright is already classed among the best farmers of Union County. He has always been a hard-working citizen, and his success in life is due to his industrious habits and good business management. In his political sentiment he is an ardent Republican. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wright are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

ISAAC BURD, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser on section 22, Jones Township, is a son of Jacob and Sarah (Lera) Burd, natives of the State of Pennsylvania, and of German descent. It was in that State that Mr. Burd grew to manhood on a farm, learning the noble vocation which he has since so successfully followed. He commenced in life a poor man; but by his energy and good management, assisted by his estimable wife, he has acquired a large property, now being the owner of 490 acres of land, in a state of high cultivation, and furnished with good residence and farm buildings. He was married in Pennsylvania to Margaret Reisdorff, and they are now the parents of eight children, namely, James, Ellen, Jacob, John, Malinda, Carrie, Fannie and Lettie. In his political views Mr. Burd is a Democrat, and he has held all the offices of his township. Postoffice, Thayer.

GARRETT LEWIS GROESBECK, late of New Hope Township, was born at Schaghticoke Point, New York, February 1, 1795, his father, Lewis Groesbeck, being born in Holland. G. L. Groesbeck was a millwright by trade, which he followed for many years in Ohio. He also helped to invent the McConnell Water Wheel. He came to Lee County, Iowa, in 1836, and attended the first land sales in Iowa, after which he returned to the State of Ohio, and in 1838 settled in Lee County, Iowa, remaining there till he removed to Union County in the spring of 1854. He was married April 4, 1821, to Miss Mercy Bosworth, who was born March 13, 1802, in Oneida County, New York, daughter of Dan Bosworth, who went to Ohio to look at land as early as 1812. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Groesbeck, and, of this number, seven are living—Adelia, Henry, Maria, William, Amelia, Dan V. and Cordelia A. Mr. Groesbeck died January 11, 1876, his death causing universal regret throughout the township where he had made his home for so many years. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church over forty-six years, and was a well-known and highly respected citizen. His widow is still living, aged over eighty-four years, and is making her home with her son, William Groesbeck, of New Hope Township. She is, like her husband, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

EDWARD SCHIFFERLE, M. D., Creston, Iowa, was born in DeKalb County, Illinois, August 29, 1857. His parents, Herman and Margaret Schifferle, are natives of Switzerland. His father is engaged in the boot and shoe trade at Somonauk, DeKalb, County. Dr. Schifferle received his preliminary education in his native town, graduating at the high school at Somonauk. In 1878 he entered the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, where he pursued the study of medicine one year. The institution was destroyed by fire, and he entered St. Francis College, at Milwaukee, where he pursued a classical course one year, then engaged in teaching in his native town one year. He graduated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1884, after taking a three years' course of lectures. Dr. Schifferle is a thorough stu-

dent and has a natural liking for the medical profession—elements that are essential to the successful physician. Although he has graduated from one of the best medical colleges in this country, his intention is, at no distant day, to enter the celebrated Heidelberg University, Germany, to more fully perfect himself in his profession. He has already established a good practice, and is a member of the United States Board of Pension Examiners.

J. S. POWER, a prominent farmer of Jones Township, residing on section 15, where he is the owner of 700 acres of land in a high state of cultivation, was born in Bracken County, Kentucky, in 1813, the son of Joseph and Nancy (Ballenger) Power. The parents, who were natives of old Virginia, moved to Kentucky in a very early day; the father followed boating on the river. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood on the farm in his native State; but at the age of sixteen years he began to work at gunsmithing. At the age of twenty-one he moved to Milton, Wayne County, Indiana, continuing at his trade three years longer; thence he moved to Morgan County, Illinois, and thence to Burlington, Iowa, carrying on the first gunshop in that city for about three years. Selling out, he removed to Wayne County, Iowa, in 1843, and one year later he came to Union County. Mr. Power has been twice married—the first time in Whitehall, Greene County, Illinois, in 1838, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Peter and Mary Frank, natives of Pennsylvania and of German descent. By this marriage there were five children, four of whom are living. The names of all are: Nancy A., deceased, Samuel K., Mary, James and Robert. Nancy A. married John Van Buskirk, and had three children—Francis M., Jeremiah and George; Samuel K. married Sophia Bishop, and had three children—William J., Felix R. and Ralph C.; Mary married William Benedict, and their children were four—Charles, Harvey, Judson and Myrtle; and James married Christena C. Janson, and their two children are Estella P. and an infant not named. Mrs. Power died November 5, 1865, and the following year Mr. Power married, in Afton, Iowa, Mrs. Mary M. Bishop, daughter of James and Rachel Messenger. She was born in Morrow County, Ohio, October 28, 1834. By this marriage there is one child, Leona M., who married J. B. La Favre, and has one child, George C. Mr. Power has held the office of justice of the peace four years, township treasurer and minor offices in his township. He is truly a self-made man, commencing in the world with no means but his hands and brain, and a will to use them. He has accordingly acquired a large estate, and has contributed liberally to all the enterprises that have been inaugurated in his vicinity. His grandfather was a Captain in the Revolutionary War, and his father was in the war of 1812. The former was shot through the body, and through the wound, from one side of his body to the other, a silk handkerchief was drawn seven times, and yet he recovered! At another time his horse jumped a ditch with him thirty feet wide! Mr. Power, the subject of the foregoing sketch, is a clear-headed business man, and socially he is an affable gentleman. Politically he is a Democrat.

G. W. MAYHEW, retired farmer, residing on section 10, Sand Creek Township, is a native of New England, born May 22, 1803. At the age of nine years he was taken by his parents to Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson County, Ohio, where they remained one year, removing thence to Washington County, Ohio. G. W. Mayhew remained at the home of his parents till twenty years of age, when he went to Illinois,

where he followed the avocation of a farmer till 1833. He came to Iowa in that year and settled on the farm in Union County where he has since made his home, where he has forty acres of well improved land under a high state of cultivation. He has followed farming till of late years, when he retired from active life, and is now taking that rest which is the reward of his years of toil and industry. He has two sons living—Morris, the eldest, now living in Montgomery County, Iowa, and Sheldon, who farms the old homestead, on section 10, Sand Creek Township. The latter was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, serving three years in the defense of his country. He is a member of the Grand Army Post at Afton, and is in politics a staunch Greenbacker. He was married to Miss Rosa Dickinson, and they are the parents of six children—Jessie, Hattie, Dudley, Bessie, Mamie, and Grant and Grace (twins).

JAMES D. TURNER is a native of North Carolina, born in Guilford County, April 8, 1825, a son of Abraham Turner, who was also a native of the same State. The parents of our subject removed to Morgan County, Indiana, in the year 1835, and there he was reared to manhood, on a farm, his education being obtained in the log-cabin subscription school of that early day. He was united in marriage December 4, 1851, to Miss Elizabeth A. Woodward, she being a daughter of William Woodward, who is a resident of Indiana. To this union were born fifteen children, thirteen of them still living. The names of those yet living are—John S., William A., Wesley D., Jesse E., Mary J., Ira M., Edgar S., Lyman C., Albert F., Ora W., Nancy E., Charles M., and Carl P. Mr. Turner came to Union County, Iowa, with his family in September, 1860, and has since made his home on section 10, of Dodge Township, where he has a good farm, and is meeting with fair success in his agricultural pursuits. He has always been an industrious, hard working man, and has by his quiet and unassuming manners gained the respect of all who know him. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

DAVID COFFEEN, a prominent farmer of Spaulding Township, resides on section 35, where he owns 160 acres of choice land under a high state of cultivation. He was born in Jefferson County, New York, in 1834, a son of David and Mahala (Hovey) Coffeen, natives also of the Empire State. He remained in his native state until manhood, and subsequently moved to Wisconsin, where he was living at the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion. In 1863 he enlisted in response of his country's call, and was assigned to Company I, Fifth Wisconsin Infantry, Sixth Army Corps, and was afterward transferred to Company B, same regiment. He served eighteen months, and was honorably discharged at Madison, Wisconsin, in 1865. He participated in the battles of Cold Harbor, the Wilderness, Appomattox, Spottsylvania Court-House, Petersburg, Winchester, Harper's Ferry, and many others of less note. After his discharge he returned home and lived in Wisconsin until 1869, when he moved to Iowa, and settled in Adair and Union counties where he has since lived. He is in every sense a self-made man; starting in life poor, he has by hard work and economy accumulated a good property and now has a competency for his old age. In politics Mr. Coffeen is a Greenbacker. He was married September 30, 1855, to Julia A. Byer, a native of Jefferson County, New York, born in 1837, a daughter of Solomon and Sarah Byer. Her father died November 29, 1880, aged eighty-four years, and her mother is still living,

making her home with Mrs. Colleen. To Mr. and Mrs. Colleen have been born five children; but three are living—Frank, Jason and Emma.

STANFORD A. BREWSTER, editor and proprietor of the daily and weekly *Advertiser*, of Creston, and manufacturer of blank books, is a son of George W. and Sarah Maria (Eells) Brewster, natives of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, respectively. Mr. Brewster died in Illinois, and Mrs. Brewster, who yet survives, resides at Creston. Stanford A. was born April 27, 1853, at Wellington, Ohio, and was but eleven years old when his father died. He received very few educational advantages, and was early faced with the necessity of gaining his own livelihood. Taking advantage of the first opening, at thirteen years of age, he entered the office of the *Lorain County News*, at Oberlin, Ohio. He had previously learned something of the printer's trade in his father's printing office, so that he now received wages from the start, though amounting to only $2.00 per week. After six months in this office he went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, desirous of bettering his condition, and for three months was newsboy on a short railroad line extending from Minneapolis to St. Paul. This employment suited him but three months. For about an equal time he was employed in a furniture factory, and for nine months more he filled the position of bell-boy in the Nicholet House. He returned to Oberlin to re-enter school, but very soon found himself back at his trade, which he followed at Oberlin nearly a year, this time. He came to Chicago and was apprenticed to a job printer, but when the great fire came he left for the country. Working for some time in different places, he returned to Chicago, perfected himself in a knowledge of job printing, and came to Creston in January, 1876, possessed of but 75 cents. He was for one year employed as foreman in the *Gazette* office, and then leased the *Democrat* office, in partnership with W. M. Patton. Three months later he bought Patton's interest in the lease-hold, and then formed a partnership with Ed. C. Russell, proprietor of the establishment. The firm of Russell & Brewster existed but one year, when Mr. Brewster purchased a plant in Omaha, mostly on credit, brought it to Creston and started a job office. In due time he established the *Advertiser*. First a free advertising sheet, it is now a profitable and important daily and weekly local newspaper. A blank book manufactory was added later, and now Mr. Brewster owns an extensive, busy printing establishment in Liberty Block, and also a nice home on Maple street. He is every whit a self-made man, and the results he has achieved with no capital but his own pluck and perseverance are worthy of the highest praise. Mr. Brewster was married September 1, 1878, at Creston, to Clara A. Hoffman. Of two children, the first died in infancy, and Nellie May is now six years old. Mr. Brewster is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

ANDREW J. BIVENS has been a resident of Creston since October 18, 1874. He has been engaged in the real estate and insurance business since 1875. He was born in Washington, Daviess County, Indiana, in 1837, where he resided until twenty-two years of age, and where he was reared to the occupation of a farmer. His father, Israel Bivens, was a native of Lexington, Kentucky, and married Mary Hendrick, removing to Indiana, where he passed the remainder of his days. His wife is still living. In 1859 Mr. Bivens married Miss Susan McBride, and soon after removed to Warren County, Illinois, where he engaged in farming. Failing health compelled him to change location

and occupation, and he accordingly came to Iowa and engaged in his present business. His health was soon restored. Mr. and Mrs. Bivens have ten children—five sons and five daughters. They lost their oldest son in Illinois. Politically Mr. Bivens is a Democrat. His parents had ten children, eight daughters and two sons. A sister, Mrs. America McBride, resides in Creston. No other members of the family reside in Iowa. The parents of Mrs. Bivens were John and Elizabeth McBride. They removed from Indiana to Illinois with Mr. and Mrs. Bivens, with whom they lived until their decease. Mrs. Bivens was the only daughter. There were three sons, one of whom, Samuel, resides in Creston.

JACOB GEIER, engaged in agriculture and the raising of domestic animals on section 18, Douglas Township, was born in the State of New York, October 20, 1846, the son of John M. and Elizabeth (Winkle) Geier, natives of Bavaria; mother died in 1853, and father resides in Minnesota. The subject of this notice was reared on a farm, and has thus far in life pursued the vocation of agriculture. In 1865 he enlisted in Company K, First Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry, and was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee, July 29, 1865. In 1870, in Benton County, Iowa, he married Miss Cordelia, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Hart) Betts, of Pennsylvania: parents are now living in Black Hawk County, Iowa. She was born in Pennsylvania, in 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Geier have three children—George E., Minnie M. and Edna E. Mr. Geier has eighty acres of land, in a fine state of cultivation. His comfortable home he has earned by the honest toil of his own hands. He has considerable property besides his farm. He is a kind neighbor and friend, and a respected citizen. Religiously, his views are liberal, and not hedged about by the doctrines of any particular creed. He maintains that religion consists in the religion of humanity, and that we cannot add to the happiness of an infinite God, but can to the happiness of man. Politically, he is a Greenbacker, and has been always ready to advance every public enterprise which in his judgment is calculated to benefit mankind. Postoffice, Cromwell.

LEWIS J. WILLIAMSON.—Among the wealthy and influential farmers and stock-raisers of Jones Township is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, who resides on section 19, the owner of 530 acres of fine farming land, in a good state of cultivation. His parents, Lewis and Catherine (Wise) Williamson, were natives of the Keystone State, the former of Scotch, the latter of German descent. His ancestors have all been in America for six generations. Mr. Williamson's mother's great-grandfather, Mr. Wise, when a boy, came to America, and was sold for his passage. His parents were born and reared in East Pennsylvania, and soon after they were married emigrated to the then very new settlement of West Pennsylvania, near Pittsburg, where the father died in 1832. Our subject grew to manhood in different counties in Ohio, working at the blacksmith's trade two years when young. In 1852 he came West and settled in Van Buren County, Iowa, where he followed milling two years; in 1856 he removed to Union County, bringing a saw-mill with him, becoming one of the first settlers north of Afton; indeed, there were but very few settlers in the county at that time. After manufacturing lumber near Afton for about three years, he, in 1859, purchased his present farm, on which there was but little improvement, and which, under his prudent management, has been brought to its present valuable condition. In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry Volunteers, and served in the

war three years, participating in the battles at Helena and Little Rock, Arkansas, Jenkins' Ferry, Mobile, Alabama, siege of Spanish Fort, etc., etc. Mr. Williamson is a Spiritualist in religious belief, liberal, allowing all others what he claims for himself—the right to do his own thinking. He is well informed on scientific subjects, is social, and therefore one whose companionship is desirable. Mr. Williamson's first marriage took place in Van Buren County, Iowa, in 1854, when Amelia B. Douglass became his wife; she was born in Ohio, in 1829. By that marriage there were six children, four of whom are living, namely—Eva L., the wife of Sylvester Carter, who have one child, Lewis; Albert J., Olive A. and Horace E. Their mother died in January, 1875, and Mr. Williamson was married, in 1878, to Mrs. Sarah E., widow of the late Henry Allen, and by this marriage there has been one child, Victor Leroy, now deceased. Mrs. Williamson is a daughter of Jacob and Anna (Merrill) Roudebush, and was born May 28, 1843. She was first married to John Holdren, by whom she had two children—Anna E. and Ida. The latter is now the wife of William D. Moore, of Creston, and has two children—Alice and Merrill. She has also a daughter by her second marriage—Jennie Allen.

JOHN BENNISON, merchant at Creston, was born in Shullsburg, Wisconsin, in 1857, a son of John Bennison. The latter was born in Manchester, England, in 1819, and came to this country in 1845 and located at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and there was married to Miss Lizzie Dimick in 1848, and in 1850 removed to Shullsburg, Wisconsin, where he engaged in the mercantile, lead and ore business until the fall of 1865. He then removed to Kewanee, Illinois, where he engaged in the mercantile trade with his brothers, in the firm name of Bennison Brothers. As the sons grew to manhood and desired to engage in business, the father purchased his brothers' interest and took his sons as partners. After a time the father retired from the firm and left his sons in charge, who retained the name of Bennison Brothers. Their business is still continued at Kewanee, and they have also established a store at Omaha, Nebraska. The dry goods house of Bennison Brothers was established at Creston May 1, 1882. They first located at No. 113 Montgomery street. They are now on the corner of Maple and Montgomery streets, Nos. 126 and 205, respectively. This firm started business in a small way, but have enlarged their stock and increased their patronage until they now have the largest dry-goods house in Creston. Their salesroom is 30 x 100 feet, with an ell 30 x 50 feet. Their stock of goods is complete in every department. John Bennison has sole charge of the business at Creston. He was married in Illinois, in 1882, to Miss Bessie Whitmore, and they have one son—Faye, who was born in 1883.

W. M. JAMES, a successful farmer and stock-raiser, living on section 2, Grant Township, is a son of C. H. and Julia James, natives of Pennsylvania, the father born in August, 1816, and the mother in 1821. They are still living and are making their home in Lucas County, Iowa. Mr. James was reared to the vocation of a farmer, which he has made his life work, having been engaged in agricultural pursuits from his youth, with the exception of three years spent in the army during the war of the Rebellion. He enlisted in Company E, Thirty-fourth Iowa Infantry, and took part in the battles of Vicksburg and Arkansas Post, and others of less note. He was honorably discharged at St. Louis, Missouri, May 25, 1865, when he returned to his home, which at that time was in Iowa. He was married, September 17,

1868, to Miss Amanda Laycock, who was born May 28, 1845, a daughter of Jacob and Rebecca Laycock. Mr. and Mrs. James have three children—Jennie R., born June 17, 1869; Everette C., born September 1, 1878, and Eva J., born May 6, 1874. Mr. James lived two years at Grand River, Iowa, during which time he dealt in agricultural implements; then, selling out his business, he returned to Afton, Union County, and from there to his farm, where he now resides. He is numbered among the well-to-do farmers of Grant Township, where he has a good farm containing eighty acres, on which he has a commodious and convenient house, and good farm buildings. Mr. James is a member of Henry Keating Post, No. 211, G. A. R., of Afton. Both he and his wife and eldest daughter belong to the Methodist Episcopal church.

R. S. KEITH, who, in partnership with John A. Evans, is proprietor of the lumber, hardware, wagon and carriage-stock establishment at 288 North Pine street, was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1850. His parents were A. F. and Eliza Johnson) Keith, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, and of Scotch and German ancestry. In 1853 the family moved to Linn County, Iowa, where they remained a year; were next in Cedar County two years, and Mr. Keith was then in Muscatine County until their removal to Union County, in October, 1879. Mr. Keith was reared in the hardware business, attending school a portion of the time of his youth. At the age of nineteen years he learned the tinner's trade. On commencing in business he had but $75, and he borrowed $1,000, and proved worthy of his trust by his faithful business management. The firm now carry about $10,000 worth of stock, and their sales amount annually to about $25,000. Their stock comprises shelf and heavy hardware, stoves, tinware, hardwood lumber, wagon and carriage wood stock and hardware, bar iron and steel. Three hands are constantly employed, sometimes four. Mr. Keith was married in Muscatine County, Iowa, in 1874, to Miss Lizzie M., daughter of Zenas Barnes; she was born in Geauga County, Ohio, in 1852. Mr. Keith owns his residence, besides other real estate. In his political action he votes with the Republicans.

DANIEL A. WYCOFF resides on section 8, Union Township, where he settled in the spring of 1857. He purchased his farm of 160 acres of Joseph Peck, who was one of the early settlers of Union County. About thirty acres had been fenced, and twenty or twenty-five acres had been broken; a part of his present residence had also been built. Mr. Wycoff was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, March 6, 1811, son of Nicholas Wycoff, a native of New Jersey, who removed to Kentucky with his family several years before the birth of our subject. Late in life he and his wife removed to Indiana and resided with their eldest son until the death of the father; the mother then went to Johnson County and lived with a daughter until her demise. Mr. Daniel Wycoff is the youngest of fifteen children—nine sons and six daughters. All are now deceased except two sons. He is the only one of his father's family that settled in Union County. He was married in his native State, to Miss Ann Wilson, and about 1840 removed with his family to Switzerland County, Indiana, thence to Decatur County, and finally to Union County. Mrs. Wycoff died in Indiana, in 1853. She was the mother of nine children—six sons and three daughters; two sons and one daughter are now living. For his second wife Mr. Wycoff married Catherine Riggor, who died May 28, 1855. They had four children—two sons and two daughters. His present wife is Margaret

Wilson. But few people are now living in this township who resided here when Mr. Wycoff came. He has witnessed the growth of the county from its primitive state to its present improved and attractive condition. While his sympathies have, politically, been with the Republican party, he has not allowed party prejudice to influence his better judgment, and he intends to vote for the best men, whatever their political views may be. He has been a member of the Methodist church for forty years.

D. A. ALDRICH is engaged in the drug business at Creston, and is located on Montgomery street, his store being in the brick block known as the Eagle Block. Mr. Aldrich succeeded Morrow & Co. in May, 1886. The business was established by J. N. Tremain, on Pine street, in 1880. Mr. Tremain was succeeded by J. W. Timmerman, who continued on Pine street until the Eagle Block was built, since which time it has been conducted in its present location. In September, 1883, Mr. Timmerman died, and Black & Wells succeeded to the business. The next change was to Morrow & Co., and then Mr. Aldrich became proprietor. He came to Creston in 1880, and has considered this place his home ever since, although he was absent from August, 1884, until May, 1886, being engaged in the drug business in Texas. He was born in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, in 1851. In 1856 his father, E. J. Aldrich, removed with his family to Lee County, Iowa, but is now a resident of Pottowatomie County. In 1871 Mr. Aldrich took a course of instruction at the School of Pharmacy in Chicago, and was subsequently engaged five years as a druggist clerk in that city and Geneva, Illinois. He then went to West Liberty, Muscatine County, Iowa, and engaged in business under the firm name of Aldrich & Gibbs, coming from West Liberty to Creston. Mr. Aldrich possesses a thorough knowledge of his business, and has had many years' experience as a practical druggist. Mrs. Aldrich was formerly Emma C. Keith, daughter of A. F. Keith. They have two sons—Clifford K. and Harry C.

J. MYERS, M. D., is the Homeopathic physician and surgeon of Creston. He settled here June 15, 1879, and is the second resident physician of his school in the city, the first being Dr. T. L. Andrews. Dr. Myers was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, January 12, 1854. When he was ten years of age his father removed with his family to McDonough County, Illinois. He began the study of his profession at Macomb, in 1875, with Dr. B. R. Westfall, and graduated at the Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, in February, 1878. After graduating he engaged in practice in Washington, Illinois. The school of medicine to which Dr. Myers belongs is rapidly growing into favor as its many virtues become known to the people. He has a large, lucrative practice, which is increasing year by year. He was married, at Creston, to Miss Margaret Silverthorne, daughter of O. J. Silverthorne, formerly of Creston.

S. PERRY is a native of New York State, born December 5, 1846, a son of John F. and Christiana (McCumber) Perry, who were natives of New York. Our subject left his native State in 1854, when he accompanied his parents to Illinois, and in that State he grew to manhood, receiving in the district schools a very limited education. He was united in marriage February 18, 1871, to Miss Sarah Stickland, a daughter of George and Olive (Sheldon) Stickland, her father being a native of England, and her

mother of Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Perry are the parents of three children—Harry S., born December 22, 1874; Harvey O., born July 15, 1878, and Joseph I., born May 30, 1881. Mr. Perry remained in Illinois until 1876, when he came to Union County, Iowa, and has since resided on his present farm on section 3, Grant Township, where he has eighty acres of land under a fine state of cultivation. He has a fine residence and good buildings on his farm, and north of his residence he has a good orchard, which covers about four acres of land. All the improvements on the place have been done by Mr. Perry, he settling on the land when it was in a state of nature, entirely unimproved. In politics Mr. Perry affiliates with no particular party, voting for the man whom he considers best fitted for office. Mrs. Perry is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JOHN E. BRAGG, farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 12, Dodge Township, was born in Coles, now Douglas County, Illinois, September 18, 1839, a son of Abraham Bragg, who was a native of Greenbrier County, Virginia. The family removed to Illinois in 1847, where our subject, John E. Bragg, lived till 1865, with the exception of eighteen months spent in Texas in 1859 and 1860, and while in the war of the Rebellion. He enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, in the three-years service, and participated in the battles of Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Bentonville and others of minor importance. In the fall of 1865 he came to Union County, Iowa, and settled on section 14, Dodge Township. He is now engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 12 of the same township, where he has a valuable farm of 320 acres. Mr. Bragg was united in marriage April 7, 1875, to Miss Martha J. Morrow, a daughter of William Morrow, who resides at Afton, Union County. Mrs. Bragg is a native of Guernsey County, Ohio. In politics Mr. Bragg affiliates with the Greenback party. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

JOSEPH M. DILLOW, section 8, Lincoln Township, was born in McDonough County, Illinois, August 7, 1851, a son of Frederick and Sarah J. (Baxter) Dillow, the father being a native of Virginia. He settled in McDonough County, Illinois, in the year 1850, and in 1861 came with his family to Lincoln Township, Union County. The surrounding country was then in a wild state, and the family experienced many of the hardships and trials of pioneer life, going a distance of forty miles to mill, etc. Their first farm machinery was brought from Des Moines. Wolves, deer and other wild animals were numerous, and our subject and his father hunted and trapped wolves and minks. Our subject caught forty minks, which he sold in Chicago, Illinois, at $3.25 each, and in this way made his first money. At that time there were but a half dozen shanties where Afton now stands, and Creston had not even been thought of. The parents subsequently went to Clay County, Nebraska, where they died—the mother September 19, 1882, and the father August 25, 1883. Joseph M. Dillow, whose name heads this sketch, was a mere boy when he was brought by his parents to this county, and here he grew to manhood and was educated in the common schools. He bought his present farm April 7, 1875, which was then raw prairie, but by persevering industry he has brought it under a high state of cultivation, and has made all the improvements on the place. His fine frame residence was erected in 1876, and in 1885 he built his present commodious barn,

which is 32x60 feet in size, with 18-foot posts and good basement. He was married, in March, 1878, to Miss Maude Maxwell, a daughter of Robert Maxwell, of this county. They have had two children—Edith E., who died at the age of four years, and Zella Florence. Mr. Dillow has met with success in his agricultural pursuits, and has now a fine farm of 160 acres where he resides. He is devoting considerable attention to stock-raising, and is making a specialty of short-horn cattle. Thirteen of his cattle have pedigrees, nine of them being registered, and he has also seven thoroughbred spring calves. Mr. Dillow has never sought office, wishing to devote his entire time to his farm duties. He is a member of the Evangelical church. Two of his brothers, Samuel and William, are ministers in the Evangelical church, the former in Nuckolls County and the latter in Seward County, Nebraska.

GEORGE W. AURACHER, dealer in furniture at Nos. 205 and 207 North Pine street, Creston, carries about $4,000 worth of well-selected furniture, his sales amounting to about $20,000 a year. He was born in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, in 1860, and is a son of Gottlieb and Elizabeth Auracher, both parents of German descent: father died in 1884, and mother lives in Lisbon, Iowa. Mr. Auracher lived in the latter place until he was sixteen years of age, his parents having moved there when he was six years old. He received a fair education. First entered the furniture business in Creston, and since 1876 has commanded a profitable trade, and now owns a half interest in the building and in the brick structure at 203 Pine street, one house and two lots. In his political principles he is a Republican; belongs to the Knights of Labor, is a member of the School Board and of the Fire Department. Is highly respected by all who know him. Believes in no religion but that of humanity, and that we cannot add anything to the happiness of an infinite God. He was married in 1881 in Lisbon, to Mary Runkle, who was born in that village in 1863. They have one child, Harry.

IRA SEELEY, section 33, Dodge Township, was born in the mountains of Tioga County, Pennsylvania, October 8, 1829, a son of Gideon and Eunice (Townsend) Seeley, who were natives of New York and Connecticut, respectively, both now deceased. Ira Seeley was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving a common-school education, the first school he attended being in a rude log-cabin with puncheon floor, slab seats, etc. He came to Union County in 1855, his parents coming at the same time, they locating in Platt Township, with our subject. He was married July 29, 1858, to Martha A. Anderson, a daughter of John Anderson. They have had six children—Helen, Angie, Ralph W., Frank E., Carl E., and one who is deceased. Mr. Seeley was a soldier in the late war, enlisting in the three-years service in Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and participated in the battles of Helena, Little Rock, Fort Spanish and others of less importance. He was home recruiting from November, 1863, till May, 1864. He enlisted in the service as a private, was promoted to First Sergeant, and commissioned Second Lieutenant November 10, 1864. At one time Mr. Seeley was engaged in teaching school, and taught some eight or ten terms. In 1876 he purchased the Afton *Tribune*, which he published for one year. He is now devoting his attention to farming and stock-raising on section 33, Dodge Township, where he has a fine farm of 320 acres. Mrs. Seeley owns a tract of eighty acres. Mr. Seeley held the office of sheriff from 1856 until 1858, and from January, 1866, until January, 1870, he was county treasurer. He is county commis-

sioner elect, at this writing, a position he has held two terms, has also served as township assessor a few years and school treasurer many years, and has also held other offices of trust, serving in all to the best interests of his township and county. He is a member of the Odd Fellows order, and of the Grand Army of the Republic.

J. H. COPENHUFFER, attorney at law, joined the bar of Union County in 1878, and has been alone in his practice except about three years, during which period he was associated with S. S. Dunning. He was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1853, where he lived until about twenty years of age. His education was obtained at one of the normal schools of his native State. He began to study law when about seventeen years of age. Later he came to Oskaloosa, where he continued his studies two years, and was admitted to the bar in 1876. The greater part of his professional life thus far has been spent in Union County. His parents were John B. and Susan Copenhuffer. The former is deceased, and the latter resides with her son at Creston.

SAMUEL G. LEAK came to Afton in August, 1859, and bought unimproved land on sections 21, 22 and 34, in Union Township. The following year he broke a part of the land and built a house. Finding it necessary to return to Montgomery County, Indiana, whence he had come, to look after his parents, improvements were discontinued. In 1869 he came back and purchased a farm in Dodge Township, upon which he settled with his family. This farm, containing 280 acres, he still owns. Since 1881 he has resided in Afton, and is engaged in the grocery and provision trade. In 1884 he retired from that business, owing to failing health. Mr. Leak was born in Montgomery County, Indiana, March 15, 1832. His father, Hiram Leak, was a native of Virginia, and was reared in Kentucky. He died in Indiana in 1865. His mother, Henrietta Harris, was born in the State of Maryland, and died in 1875. Hiram Leak was twice married, and had eight children who grew to maturity. Samuel G. was the oldest of the three children by the second marriage; the others were—Mrs. Lucretia Ann Handley, of Dodge Township, and Charles M., of Guthrie County, Iowa. Mr. Leak married Miss Catherine A. Compton, who died in this county in 1880; his present wife was formerly Hattie M. Lawrence. By his first marriage were five children—Francis E., Emily A., John H., Russell A. and Samuel A. He has one child by his second marriage—Bennett C.

WILLIAM V. McQUAID, proprietor of one of the leading mercantile houses of Creston, engaged in business here in September, 1880. His stores occupy a part of the Summit House Block, Nos. 307, 309, 311. In 1880 Mr. McQuaid and his father, J. R. McQuaid, engaged in the grocery trade at Creston, and in August of 1882 they added the china hall department. In 1884 Mr. McQuaid succeeded McQuaid & Son, and in April, 1885, he added the dry-goods department. The rooms devoted to the several branches of business are adjacent, and open into each other. The grocery department, which is very complete, includes a meat market, the latter being an important branch of his trade. The second or middle room constitutes the china hall, while the third room is a first-class dry-goods store. The rooms are commodious, the first two being 22 x 80 feet, and the last 22 x 70 feet. In 1885 his sales amounted to $90,000, and the first six months of 1886 reached $50,000, and will

doubtless aggregate $100,000 during this year. Mr. McQuaid was born in Canton, Illinois, where he grew to manhood. He was reared to mercantile pursuits, and for three years prior to coming to Creston he was a commercial traveler. His father still lives at Canton. He was married, in Illinois, to Miss Nettie Reffer, daughter of David Reffer, of Canton. They have four children—Harry, Edith, Charles and Bessie.

NOAH M. JACKSON, retired farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 2, Pleasant Township, where he owns 140 acres. Postoffice, Thayer. He was born in Marion County, Indiana, in 1831, but was brought up in Cass County. His parents, John M. and Mary (Watts) Jackson, were from North Carolina, and both died in Indiana, he in Cass County and she in Marion County. Noah M., our subject, came West during the year 1863, settling in Pleasant Township, Union County, without any property; but he has earned his present estate, which comprises a well-improved farm. His early education was very limited, as there were no schools but those supported by private subscription, and they were few and poor; but what Mr. Jackson lacked in school-training he has made up in common sense, by which he has attained a high standing in his community. He has held the offices of school director, township trustee, justice of the peace twelve years, etc. He is a man of firm principle and consistent conduct, and is a member of Hopeville (Clarke County) Lodge, No. 306, I. O. O. F., also of the Christian church, and is a Republican. Mr. Jackson was married in Fulton County, Indiana, in 1851, to Phœbe Gripp, who was born in Wayne County, Indiana, in 1833, the daughter of Frederick and Anna (Emmel) Gripp. The marriage has been blessed with the birth of nine children, namely—Sarah F., who is now the wife of Peter Walters and has four children—Marion, Agnes, Harvey and Ona; Mary A., who married Elias Day, of Jones Township, and has eight children—Minnie, Josie, Maud, Myrtle, Clyde, Emma, Clarence and ———; John A. married Mary Olinger and has three children—Ethel, Bessie and Jennie; Elizabeth L. is the wife of Wesley Walters, and has four children—Carrie, James, Jessie and Nellie; Harvey F., Jay M., Nora M., Emma F. and Laura C. are the five others. Mrs. Jackson died during the year 1883, and Mr. Jackson during the following year married Miss Helen, daughter of Henry and Catharine (Hamilton) Baker, of Welsh and Irish ancestry. Her parents died when she was quite young. Mr. Jackson's postoffice address is Thayer, Union County, Iowa.

EDWARD STALKER, JR., farmer and stock-raiser on section 21 of Douglas Township, was born in Rochester, New York, his parents being Edward and Jane (Kneale) Stalker, whose history appears elsewhere in this volume. He lived with his parents in Rochester until he attained the age of twelve years, when they moved to Knox County, Illinois. After living there nine years, working on his father's farm, he came, in 1875, to Union County, locating at his present place. Here he has worked hard, and made all his property by his own exertions, now owning 240 acres of good land, all except sixty acres of which is under cultivation. He makes a specialty of feeding stock. His farm and buildings are so arranged that he can feed all his stock at home. He was married in Douglas Township, in 1877, to Miss Susie E., daughter of C. E. and Phœbe (Morris) Widger, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Stalker have three children—Charles E., Jennie M. and James H. Mr. Stalker received a good

education in the common schools, and himself and wife are genial, kind-hearted, and by their deeds of benevolence have endeared themselves to all who know them. They are prominent members of the Free-Will Baptist church, and in political views he is an outspoken Republican. Postoffice, Cromwell.

CAPTAIN B. T. NIX, Clerk of Court, Union County, was born in Ohio County, Kentucky, in 1840. His father, Rev. James E. Nix, was a Methodist minister, and as such was necessitated to change residence often. When the civil war broke out the people of Kentucky were divided in their sympathies toward the North and South, and the partisan feeling became extremely bitter. There was no neutral ground to be taken. A man was either for or against the Government, emphatically and absolutely. When the time for deciding this question came, there was no hesitancy in the mind of Captain Nix, nor in that of any other member of the family, as to which cause he should espouse. They were arrayed at once on the side of the Government. In August, 1862, our subject enlisted in Company B, Thirty-second Kentucky Infantry, for one year. Upon the organization of the company he was made its Captain, and he commanded the company throughout his time of service. The regiment operated in Kentucky, participating in the battle of Mill Springs, where the Confederate General Zollicoffer was killed. At the expiration of his term of service he immediately engaged in recruiting a company, which consisted of many members of his former company, and, as before, was made its Captain. He re-entered the army and the company became Company D, Fifty-third Kentucky Infantry. He continued in the service until after the war closed, being mustered out in the fall of 1865. He served with his regiment in Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky. Much of the time he was engaged in guerrilla fighting, the most dangerous and hazardous kind of warfare. Captain Nix was a gallant and an efficient officer, ready for duty at all times, and discharging that duty wisely and faithfully. His record as a soldier is an honorable one. In 1868 he decided to come West. He first went to Kansas with a view of locating in that State; but not being altogether pleased with the country he retraced his steps as far as Iowa, and, in 1870, settled upon a farm in Clarke County, where he remained five years. In 1875 he came to Union County and purchased a farm in Platte Township, which he still owns. He was married in Kentucky, to Virginia E. Rhodes, a daughter of S. C. Rhodes, formerly of Platte Township, but now deceased. She was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. They have one daughter, Libbie F., born in Des Moines County, Iowa. Their first child, Alberta M., died at the age of five years. The father of Captain Nix died in Kentucky, in November, 1885. He had ten children, most of the surviving members still living in Kentucky. He had been twice married. A sister, Mrs. E. C. Lucas, resides in Creston. Politically, Captain Nix is a Republican. He has served as clerk of the court six years, having been first elected in 1880. He is recognized as a worthy and efficient officer, having been nominated three times by acclamation by the Republican party of Union County.

ISBEN LININGER, one of the prosperous agriculturists of Platte Township, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Mercer County, November 11, 1833. His parents, Daniel and Catherine (Klingensmith) Lininger, were natives of the same State, but subsequently came to Iowa, and in 1858 settled in Ringgold County. The father was born in 1802. Our subject was reared to manhood on a farm, and received his education in the district schools. March 19, 1863,

he was united in marriage to Miss Rachel A. Woods, a daughter of Michael and Polly (McVey) Woods—her father a native of Tennessee and her mother of Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Lininger have been born three children, of whom two sons are living, named Archibald and William. Their only daughter, Catherine, is deceased. Mr. Lininger was among the early settlers of Union County, settling on his present farm, on section 32, Platte Township, in the year 1865. His land at that time was without improvement, being in its natural state. He has now 480 acres of land, which he has brought under cultivation, and has on his farm a commodious residence and good farm buildings, and is classed among Union County's best farmers. In connection with his general farming he is devoting considerable attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of Norman horses. Mr. Lininger in his political views is a Greenbacker. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Lenox Lodge.

J. H. BLAKELY, a successful farmer and stock-raiser, living on section 2, Grant Township, was born in Logan County, Ohio, June 12, 1841, a son of Richard and Elizabeth Blakely, who were of Scotch and Irish ancestry. His father being a farmer by occupation, he was reared to the same pursuit, which he has made his life work. He remained in his native county till 1853, when his mother removed to Cedar County, Iowa, remaining there some time, when they came to Union County. J. H. Blakely served three years in the defense of his country during the late war, being a member of Company D, Eleventh Iowa Infantry. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth and Vicksburg, beside others of minor importance, and at the expiration of his term of service received an honorable discharge, when he returned to his home. He was married May 10, 1866, to Miss Martha Miller, a daughter of Israel and Catherine (Walton) Miller, who were of Dutch descent. Of eight children born to this union six are still living—Kate E., Mary E., Adda F., George F., Maggie M. and Joseph M. Since coming to Union County Mr. Blakely has always lived on his present farm in Grant Township, where he now has 240 acres of land under cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Blakely are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he has always been a Republican.

WILLIAM GROUNDS, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 22, Douglas Township, where he owns 240 acres of highly cultivated land. He was born in Edwards County, Illinois, in 1834, the son of John and Elizabeth Grounds; father died in 1872, aged about seventy-three years; the mother was born in 1811, and is still living, in the same county, in Illinois. In 1861 Mr. Grounds enlisted in Company K, Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served three years and ten months, engaging in more than thirty battles, as Shiloh, Russell House, siege of Corinth, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Snyder's Bluff, Champion Hills, assault on and siege of Vicksburg, siege of Jackson, Mississippi, Tuscumbia, Alabama, Missionary Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Jonesboro, South Edisto River, Columbia, South Carolina; Bentonville, North Carolina, etc., etc., besides skirmishes innumerable, traveling altogether 11,567 miles, of which he marched on foot 3,340 miles, traveled by rail 2,875 miles, and sailed 5,850 miles total, 11,567. Was under fire 128 days, and received a flesh wound at the battle of Jonesboro. Mr. Grounds was brought up on the farm, and has all his life been a farmer. Beginning in life without means, working by the month for seven years, for $11 to $25 a month, his present prosper-

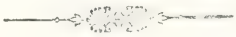
ity shows him to have been an industrious and economical man. He has been a school director in his district, and is now school treasurer for his township. He was married in Warren County, Illinois, in 1866, to Miss Lavina, daughter of John and Eliza Butler, natives of Kentucky. Her grandfather was the first sheriff of Warren County. Mr. and Mrs. Grounds have had eight children—Mary M., Ira B., Lena E., John H., Gracie L., William S., Stella M. and Floy O., and an infant deceased. Postoffice, Creston.

JOHN BROWN, JR., a farmer on section 33, Spaulding Township, where he owns 120 acres, was born in Scotland, in 1844. His parents, Robert and Martha Brown, emigrated to America when he was eleven years of age. His father died in 1879. Mr. Brown, the subject of this sketch, was married in Ohio to Margaret A. Yeats, a native of England, being born in that country in the year 1848. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born six children, namely: Robert, Richard, Walter, Thomas, Mary E. and Elta. Mr. Brown is a believer in the principles of the National Greenback party, is an esteemed member of his community, and an industrious husbandman. On his present place he has made all the improvements. Postoffice, Cromwell.

R. J. THOMPSON, engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 20 of Spaulding Township, where he owns eighty acres of well-improved land, was born in Adams County, Ohio, December 23, 1847. His father, Daniel Thompson, who was a millwright for fifty years, was a native of Pennsylvania; and his mother, whose maiden name was Mary Baldridge, was born in Ohio; both were of Scotch-Irish extraction. The subject of this biographical notice grew to years of maturity on the farm in Ohio. In 1863 he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Ninety-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served four months. His present farm had no improvements when he settled upon it, but he has greatly enhanced its value by his industry. He is serving his third term as justice of the peace, and has held other local offices. In politics he is a Republican, and in religion a member of the United Brethren church at Creston. He was married in 1871, in Adams County, Ohio, to Mary Kenady, a native of that State, and they had one child—Wilbert R. by name. Mrs. Thompson died in 1872, and Mr. Thompson was again married in Warren County, Iowa, in 1874, to Caroline Lattie, who was born in Adams County, Ohio, in 1845. By this marriage there are two children—Dora B. and Ethel M.

MILTON BOURNE, farmer, section 7, Union Township, has been a resident of Union County since 1865. He first settled on section 8, upon the farm now owned by J. H. Nicholson, and located upon his present farm in 1878. There were then no improvements on the place; all have been made by Mr. Bourne. He was born in the town of Savoy, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, in March, 1825, son of Joseph Bourne, also a native of Massachusetts, who died in 1834. When he was about thirteen years of age, the family removed to Licking County, Ohio. There were then the mother and five children—three sons and two daughters. Mr. Bourne remained in Ohio until he reached his majority. He married Angeline Monser, daughter of Abram and Martha (Hancock) Monser, who were natives of Virginia, and removed to Ohio where his father died. Her mother came to Iowa and lived with her daughter until her decease. Mr. and Mrs. Monser were the parents of eight children—

six of whom grew to maturity, and five are still living. Mrs. Bourne and D. C. Monser are all that live in this county. Emma R. lives in Missouri, and George and Samuel live in Ohio. Mr. Bourne emigrated to Iowa in October, 1857, and settled upon a farm in Marion County, which he improved and upon which he lived until 1865, when he came to Union County. He is the only member of his father's family who has settled in this county, except a sister, Mrs. Rosella Peck. Mr. and Mrs. Bourne have two children—William Sylvester and Mary L. Martha C., who married Eugene Roberts, is deceased. Politically Mr. Bourne has been a Republican since the organization of that party. Himself and wife are members of the Baptist church.



SAUL RICHARDS, a prominent agriculturist of Grant Township, engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 26, is a son of Silas and Ellen Richards, who were natives of Virginia and Ohio, respectively, both now deceased. Saul Richards was born January 1, 1823, and reared to agricultural pursuits, which he has followed through life. He was married at the age of twenty-four years to Miss Elma Jane Harris, who was born July 20, 1828, a daughter of William and Julia Harris, her father being a native of Pennsylvania, and her mother born in Virginia, both of whom are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Richards have five children living—Sarah S., born March 23, 1848; Tracy W., born November 10, 1849; Mary E., born May 9, 1853; Silas P., born April 7, 1855; and Homer S., born July 9, 1861. Mr. Richards has devoted his attention to general farming and stock raising, and by his industry and good management he has become the owner of his present farm which contains eighty acres of good land. He commenced life entirely without means and is now classed among the well-to-do citizens of Grant Township, and during his residence here has filled acceptably most of the township offices. In politics Mr. Richards casts his suffrage with the Republican party. He and his wife are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal church; Sarah and Mary Ella being members of the same denomination.

ISAAC NEWTON CHERRY is a native of Virginia, born in 1817. In 1821 his parents moved to Muskingum County, Ohio, and there he was reared. His father, Jacob Cherry, was a native of Richmond, Virginia, of English descent, and died in Muskingum County, in 1866, his wife's death preceding his several years. Their family consisted of four children—Isaac N., James (deceased), Mary Ann, wife of Joseph R. Morrison, of Licking County, Ohio, and William, of Muskingum County, Ohio. Isaac Newton Cherry was married in Ohio to Alcinda W. Morrison, also a native of Virginia, and six months after his marriage moved to Perry County and thence to Morgan County. In 1862 he came to Iowa and located in Jones Township, Union County, buying a partially improved farm, which he improved and lived on until the spring of 1876, when he went to Afton. In his youth Mr. Cherry received good educational advantages and thinking he would like the life of a physician, read medicine under the direction of Dr. J. W. Watkins, of Muskingum County. Concluding, however, that the profession would not suit him he abandoned the study and turned his attention to agriculture, a calling which he has made successful. In politics Mr. Cherry was in early life a Whig, but since its organization has affiliated with the Republican party. He has served one term as judge of Union County. To him and his wife have been born seven children, six of whom are living—

Mary E., wife of Dr. L. S. Groves; Jacob E., John W., Charlotte, wife of J. F. Bishop, Alcinda, wife of J. W. Johnson, of Red Oak, Iowa, and Cyrena, wife of J. N. Gadd, all, save Alcinda, living in Afton. Their son, S. B., died in August, 1882, aged forty-three years. He was a graduate of the Columbus Medical College, Ohio, and was a successful physician.

STANCIL MOFFITT resides on section 1, Union Township, where he settled in the spring of 1856. He was born in Randolph County, North Carolina, in March, 1824. His parents were Charles and Mary Moffitt, also natives of North Carolina. The father died in that State and the mother subsequently removed to Tennessee, where she passed the remainder of her days. They were the parents of twelve children—seven sons and five daughters. Two of the sons died in childhood. Stancil and his brother, Solomon C., of Union Township, are the only members of the family known to be living. Our subject was reared in his native State and married Deborah L. Barker, born in October, 1824. Her parents were Robert and Naomi Barker, who lived in North Carolina until their decease. They had four children that grew to maturity—one son and three daughters; one daughter died in infancy. Three of the children are supposed to be still living. September 18, 1854, Mr. Moffitt started north with his family with wagon and horse team. His family then consisted of wife and four children. Mrs. Moffitt had an uncle living in Union County, and through his influence they settled here. They were two months making the journey, passing nearly every night in their wagon. Only two or three nights, when the weather was severely cold, did they sleep in a house. They arrived here November 18. Mr. Moffitt had but $10 left, and had the misfortune to lose one of his horses the third day after his arrival. That fall he engaged to build a log-cabin for Mr. William Groesbeck, and in this cabin both families passed the winter. In the spring of 1855 Mr. Moffitt pre-empted eighty acres in Dodge Township upon which he built a cabin, improved a few acres, then sold out. In March, 1856, he entered eighty acres of his present farm and settled upon it with his family. The same year he built a small frame house, which constitutes a part of his present residence, and here he has lived thirty years. Mr. and Mrs. Moffitt have endured all the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life. They are among the oldest settlers in Union County. They have a family of six children—five sons and one daughter. A son died in North Carolina, and two daughters have died in Union County, the eldest, Winsie Ann, in her twentieth year, and Mary E. died at the age of about two years. Charles T. lives in Tremont County, Iowa, and Nazariah lives in Union Township. Five children were born in Union County, four of whom are living—Henry W. resides in Jones Township; Marion F., at home, Edwin S. and Frances L. Mr. Moffitt and sons have about 520 acres of land. In early life Mr. Moffitt was a Whig and cast his first Presidential vote for General Taylor, in 1848. He affiliated with the Republican party till the salary grab trial and since then he has voted with the Greenback party.

W. A. NYE, general grocer, 125 Maple street, Creston, began business on Adams street, this city, April 9, 1877, as successor to James Butler. Fifteen months afterward he opened business on Pine street, where he continued until the fall of 1883; located where he now is in October, 1884. During this period he has been out of business about one year. He has also opened a

farm in Nebraska, spending one summer there; and he now owns a fine farm near Kearney, and one near Creston; also one in Barton County and one in Ness County, Kansas. Mr. Nye was born in Muscatine County, Iowa, in March, 1846, and was reared in that county in the occupation of farming. His father, Alfred Nye, settled in that county in 1836, as a pioneer, and died at Iowa City, January 8, 1886, continuing, however, to the time of his death, to own the old homestead. He was a native of Montpelier, Vermont. His wife is still living at Iowa City. Their six sons and one daughter are all living, the subject of this sketch being the only one residing in Union County. The latter was married in 1869, in Muscatine County, to Miss Iona N. Pace, who was born and reared in the same county, of Virginian parents, who were among the earliest pioneers of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Nye are the parents of three children—Carrie L., Bertha A. and Mabel, besides two deceased—Glenn Perkins and Mamie. In his views of national affairs Mr. Nye is Democratic, but he votes for the best men at local elections. He is a member of the Creston City Council. On the 1st of April, 1883, he started a general store at Nevinville, Adams County, and at the close of the first year he admitted Mr. A. T. Joy as a partner, which relation still continues. Mr. Nye is one of the enterprising business men of Creston, with whose interests he has been identified nearly ten years.

D. McDONALD, one of the enterprising farmers, stock-raisers and dealers of Union County, located on section 25, Douglas Township, was born in Madison County, Ohio, March 16, 1855, and is a son of James and Lucilla (Davidson) McDonald, natives of the same county, where they still reside. The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm in his native county, and has ever since followed the vocation of his youth, in which he evinces unusual talent and marked success. He is the proprietor of a quarter-section of land in this county, and a fifth interest in the Union County Draft-Horse Association at Creston, a full description of which is given elsewhere in this work. He was married in this county, March 30, 1882, to Lizzie Jamison, who was born in Ohio, July 4, 1861. They have one child, named Dow. Byers, born June 28, 1884. Although a young man, Mr. McDonald has shown good business qualifications, a fine social nature, for which he is highly esteemed by all who know him. Postoffice, Creston.

RICHARD H. DELMAGE, of Afton, was born in Ireland, November 20, 1839, and removed with his parents to Kendall County, Illinois, in the year 1843, where he was reared, receiving his education at the academy at Bristol. He served an apprenticeship at the joiner's trade at Peoria, and has been engaged in contracting and building ever since. He was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, enlisting January 1, 1862, in Company H, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, and served in General Steele's brigade, in the army under General Curtis. He first went to St. Louis, thence to Pilot Knob, thence to Batesville, Arkansas; thence to Jacksonport, Arkansas, and thence to Helena. The last was one of the severest marches on record that occurred during the war; they were following the Confederates commanded by Major-Generals Hinchman and Rusk. The enemy, destroying everything in their retreat, rendered the sufferings of the Union army following them almost unendurable. The Ninth Illinois Cavalry was the first regiment to enter Helena. Later the regiment operated in Mississippi, and then returned to Helena. In August, 1862, when returning to Helena, Mr. Delmage was suddenly prostrated by sunstroke, and was not

again able to do a soldier's duty. He was sent to a hospital at St. Louis where he remained until his discharge, which occurred December 9, 1863. His health was very seriously impaired for several years, nor has he ever fully recovered from the effects of that misfortune. From the time he entered the army until he was disabled he was always ready for duty, and performed it faithfully and well. Soon after his return his two younger brothers, Raymond C. and Charles G., enlisted in the same company, serving till the close of the war. Mr. Delmage came to Union County in 1864, his brother, R. C., being then at Afton. In 1866 he erected the large frame school building at Afton. In 1864 he and his brother purchased 160 acres of land in New Hope Township, which they still own and have increased to about 800 acres. They are extensively engaged in stock-raising, having as fine a stock farm as can be found in Union County. In 1866 Mr. Delmage's parents, Christopher and Rebecca (Holmes) Delmage, came West, and settled in Union Township. They now reside at Creston. In connection with his farming interests Mr. Delmage has been extensively engaged in contracting and building. He has erected many of the fine residences, business blocks and public buildings in Afton and Creston. He employed from twenty-five to thirty hands for many years. His parents had four sons and three daughters. The four sons and two daughters are still living. The youngest daughter, Louie R., wife of Henry Murphy, of Cromwell, died June 27, 1886. She was a lady of refinement, education and culture and possessed of more than ordinary intelligence. She was a teacher in Union County fifteen years, and was deputy county superintendent of schools of this county, her brother, George J. Delmage, being superintendent. The other children are—Mary, wife of Charles Bond, of Murray, Iowa; Richard H., our subject; Raymond C., who is associated with R. H. in business; Charles G., of Denver, Colorado; Mrs. Lillie E. Taylor, of Bradfield, Missouri, and George J., of Fremont, Nebraska. Mr. Delmage was married October 18, 1876, to Miss Jennie E. Hunt, of Henry, Marshall County, Illinois. Her parents were Richard and Ruth (Harram) Hunt; the former is deceased, and the latter resides in Henry, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Delmage have three children—Vera Z., Verne and Maud. Mr. Delmage is a member of the Henry Keating Post, G.A.R., at Afton, and is also a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges at Afton. Mr. and Mrs. Delmage have a pleasant home in Afton where comfort, contentment and hospitality abound.

J. H. PATT was born in the State of Rhode Island, in 1840, son of James M. and Abigail (Haven) Patt, who are also natives of Rhode Island, but now reside in Bureau County, Illinois. His father was a mechanic in humble circumstances, but a man who was endowed with more than ordinary shrewdness and common sense. The boy passed his childhood until the age of ten at the family home, and before that age obtained all the education he was destined to receive from the few books about his father's humble home. Education at the schools in those days was a much more costly luxury than now, and only the children of rich parents were able to attend the few schools of the time. When he reached the age mentioned the imperative necessity of gaining his own livelihood threw young Patt out into the world, and at that tender age he began the struggle in the hard tasks of life. The experience of necessity thus gained ever stood him in good stead in his career, and was undoubtedly the foundation of his character. In his weary toil on farms he learned that it was earnest work that achieved the most, and became early imbued with the characteristics that marked his after life, and contributed so

J. H. Patt

largely to his success. In a few years, attracted by the boundless possibilities of the West, Mr. Patt emigrated to the State of Illinois. He settled in Bureau County, a county that was largely made up in population of people from the Eastern States—a people noted for thrift, energy and intellectuality. Amid such surroundings Mr. Patt found a congenial sphere and resolved to remain permanently. He did not shrink from any class of work that came to hand. An old-time resident of that county once remarked that "Mr. Patt, rather than be idle, carried a hod two years, and he carried it with signal ability, and with satisfaction to his employer." A boy who was not afraid to work, even at such a humble calling, must surely have had sterling material in his composition. Those were the days when he was battling with the opposing elements of life, and builded wiser for the future, perhaps, than he knew. By frugality and industry the young man contrived to accumulate a small capital, and opened a restaurant on a small scale. Abandoning this soon after, he opened a grocery store, and in 1858 went into the hardware line, with which he has since been identified, and in which he has been more than ordinarily successful. In June, 1863, Mr. Patt was married, at Tiskilwa, to Leah M. Kitterman, daughter of one of Bureau County's oldest and best-known citizens. From this happy union were born their son and daughter—Frank and Florence. In 1873 Mr. Patt became inclined to try a residence in the charming climate of the Pacific States, and selling out the extensive business he had built up in Illinois, went, with his family, to California. They remained in that State two years, and not finding it suitable for a permanent home, returned East. Just at that time the city of Creston was beginning the era of prosperity and progress that has thus far indelibly marked its growth. With quick foresight and natural business judgment he saw at a glance that this young city of the rolling prairie was "big with prophecy." Here, he saw, would grow up a city of which he should be proud to claim citizenship. After arriving here the first act of Mr. Patt was to begin the erection of the well-known Patt's Block, the large three-story brick building at the corner of Adams and Elm streets. In 1875 there were no business houses on Adams street west of that corner, and but one or two old shells between the corners of Maple and Adams, and Adams and Elm streets. He also erected several dwelling-houses and invested largely in real estate, showing his confidence in the future of the city. Since then he has carried on an extensive hardware and implement business in one of the store-rooms of his fine block. Mr. Patt has been prominently connected with almost every successful public enterprise of note inaugurated since his arrival in Creston, and has also held numerous responsible positions of trust and honor. In 1877 he was elected mayor of the city, and his administration was marked by his fidelity and good judgment in his discharge of the duties incumbent upon the office. Every public charity has found in him a liberal subscriber, and in more than one instance his large-heartedness has prompted him to help the needy and give substantial encouragement to young men struggling for a foothold in business. As a business man Mr. Patt enjoys the confidence of all who know him, and his name is known to almost every one who knows of Creston, so closely have both grown united. He has been the leader in several corporation enterprises that have been of much general benefit to the town. At present he is president of the Agricultural Society, and has given his best efforts toward making this important enterprise a permanent one. It was principally through his efforts and zeal that the Creston Opera House Company, of which he is president and the largest stockholder, erected the fine opera house building, which is an ornament and a great credit to the city. Mr. Patt has a large interest, both

financial and friendly, in the advancement of the town, and hence, has many times put aside private interests to help with his indefatigable energy any public enterprise that demanded aid. In 1883 Mr. and Mrs. Patt, with a large throng of their warm friends, celebrated the twentieth anniversary of their marriage at their spacious mansion in this city.

BENJAMIN HUBBELL, a member of the Board of Supervisors of Union County, has been a resident of Union County since 1871. He was appointed to his present position January 1, 1886, to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of C. G. Shull, who removed from the district, and in the fall of 1886 was elected for another term. Mr. Hubbell is a native of Goshen, Elkhart County, Indiana, born in 1844. He was reared in his native town to the occupation of a farmer. His parents, Elisha and Amelia Ann (Cornell) Hubbell, were natives of Ohio. They settled in Elkhart County about 1833, where the father died in 1877. The mother is still living. In 1877 our subject sold out in Indiana and came West to look for a location. He decided to settle in Union County, and purchased 120 acres of land in Grant Township, upon which he immediately settled. This land was wholly unimproved. He made his purchase in March, and by the 4th of July following had the land all broken. His first crop was a splendid crop of rye. The next year he planted sixty acres to corn, and the average production was sixty bushels to the acre; and eight acres, which he measured, gave seventy-five bushels to the acre. These figures are given to show what can be done in Union County by a thorough farmer. Mr. Hubbell's land is on section 14. He added to his original purchase until he at one time owned 600 acres of excellent land. He is largely engaged in the stock business, and is classed among the most successful stock dealers of Union County. He still owns 400 acres, having sold 200 acres in 1885. In the spring of 1882 he leased his land and removed to Afton, where he is engaged in buying and shipping stock. He is also one of the principal auctioneers of the county, and his services in this direction are in general demand. Mr. Hubbell's parents had eight children who grew to maturity, five sons and three daughters. Two sons and one daughter are deceased. Elisha M. served in the Twenty-first Indiana Battery, in the war of the Rebellion, and was wounded in the breast at Chickamauga, where he fought under General Thomas. He lived several years afterward, but died from the effect of that wound. Benjamin is the only son of his father's family who has settled in Iowa. He has been twice married. His first wife was Jennie Guflin, who died in Indiana in June, 1875. His present wife was Sally Palmer. By the first marriage was one daughter —Beatrice. By the second marriage are two children—Maud and Chester. Mr. Hubbell is a Republican, as were all of his father's family.

GEORGE D. BENTON, one of the self-made men of Union County, and an enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Lincoln Township, where he lives on section 20, was born in Ohio, July 22, 1830, a son of Edward H. and Rebecca (Sealy) Benton, who were natives of Vermont, the former dying at the age of forty-seven years, the latter living at the age of ninety years. George D. Benton was reared to agricultural pursuits, remaining on the home farm with his parents till eighteen years of age. He went to California in 1849, remaining there three years, when he located in Indiana, and after a residence of four years in that State he removed to Illinois, where he improved a farm, on which he lived for seven years. February 25,

1857, he was married to Miss Nancy Jane Hancock, who was born February 7, 1841, a daughter of John and Leona (Mayfield) Hancock, who were natives of Spencer County, Indiana. About the year 1863 Mr. Benton settled in Marshall County, Illinois, remaining there eleven years, since which he has been a resident of Lincoln Township, Union County. He bought raw prairie land on coming to Union County, which is now one of the finest farms in Lincoln Township, and is still owned and occupied by the subject of this sketch, the farm containing 160 acres of well cultivated land. He has a very fine orchard, which covers twenty acres, and three acres of vineyard. Mr. Benton began life a poor man, but has succeeded in accumulating a good property by his industrious habits and persevering energy. Mrs. Benton died March 3, 1885, leaving a family of five children—Martha J., who was born March 11, 1859, married E. D. Salisbury, June 10, 1875; Margaret A., born March 21, 1862; Edward D., born June 4, 1864; Emma E., born April 7, 1866, and George A., born August 4, 1872. Mr. Benton and two of his daughters are members of the Christian church. His wife was also a member of the same church.

J. C. ARMITAGE, engaged in agriculture and the raising of live stock, resides on section 27, Pleasant Township, where he owns a fine farm of 120 acres. He was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, in the year 1824, his parents, Abraham and Mary (Caldwell) Armitage, being natives of Pennsylvania and of English and German descent. He grew to the years of manhood as a laborer on the paternal farm in Allen County, Ohio, and has since followed the calling in which he was trained. He first came to this State in 1852, settling in Wapello County; the year afterward he accompanied his brother-in-law to this county, being the first settlers in Pleasant Township. His father died in Ohio in 1875. Mr. Armitage, our subject, was married in this county, in 1853, to America Lamb. This was the second marriage in the county. She was born in 1835, in Floyd County, Indiana. They have had nine children, six of whom are living—Albert, Perry, Minnie (wife of Lewis McCutcheon), Wesley, Ira and Daniel. Mrs. McCutcheon has one child, named Roy R. Mr. Armitage has been school director several terms; is a member of the New-Light church, and an honored citizen. Postoffice, Hopewell, Clarke County.

JOHN HENKLE, residing on section 16, Sand Creek Township, is one of the active and enterprising farmers of Union County. He was reared to agricultural pursuits on the home farm in Lee County, Iowa, his father's family being the second that settled in Van Buren Township, that county. He was a soldier in the late war, enlisting in Company A, First Iowa Cavalry, and after being in the service three years was honorably discharged, at Austin, Texas. After he left the army he returned to Lee County, remaining there a short time, when he removed to his present home. He was married in 1867 to Mary M. Simons, and they are the parents of four daughters—Laura A., born December 22, 1868; Martha L., born October 24, 1872; Opha R., born September 22, 1878, and Eva J., born September 8, 1880. Mr. Henkle is one of the leading agriculturists of Union County, and has one of the finest farms in Sand Creek Township, containing 240 acres of well-improved land. Mr Henkle takes an active interest in the cause of education, and has various school offices in this county. In politics he is a Republican. Mrs. Henkle is a member of the Baptist church. Her parents were both born in Pennsylvania, and are yet living, their home being in Afton, Union County. The parents of our subject,

Amos and Martha (McGreer) Henkle, were natives of Virginia and Indiana respectively. The father was born June 15, 1817, and in 1829 went with his father to Illinois. In 1836 they removed to Lee County, Iowa, the father settling with his family in Lee County as before stated.

ROBERT J. BIGGS has been a resident of Union County since May, 1866. He was born in Clark County, Indiana, in 1825. His father, Abner Biggs, was a native of Kentucky, and settled in Indiana at an early day. He lived for many years in Clark County, where he died in the fall of 1872. Mr. Biggs was reared to the occupation of a farmer. August 11, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, Forty-ninth Regiment, Indiana Infantry, and served till the close of the war. He was honorably discharged July 15, 1865. He was engaged with his regiment in the following battles: Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Port Gibson, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, Siege of Vicksburg, and Bayou Rapids. After the last named battle he was transferred to the Army of the Gulf. During the last six months of the war he was located at Lexington, Kentucky, engaged in guarding the railroad. Mr. Biggs was a true and faithful soldier. His constitution was badly shattered by exposure and other hardships endured in the army. Especially in warm weather he suffers from the effects of a sunstroke received in 1863. At the close of the war he returned to Indiana and the following April removed with his family to Union County. In 1868 he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Jones and Pleasant Townships. He also has twenty acres of timber in Sand Creek Township. In November, 1884, he removed to Afton, leasing his farm. Mr. Biggs was married in 1860 to Nancy E. Enlow, born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, in 1834, and removed to Indiana with her parents, Henry and Susan Enlow, when three years of age. Her father was born in 1799 and died in 1880. Her mother was born in 1800 and died February 25, 1874. They had eight children, four of whom are living—Richard M., Mrs. Elizabeth Clark, and Mrs. Martha Jones, a twin sister of Mrs. Biggs. Mr. Biggs' mother, Emily Biggs, was born in 1802, and is still living in Indiana. His parents had fifteen children, eleven of whom are living, five sons and six daughters. There were two pairs of twins in the family. Mr. and Mrs. Biggs have four children—Elmer Ellsworth, Ernest L., Enola and Robert Irving. Mrs. Biggs is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Biggs is now and has always been a Republican.

O. W. OAKES, one of the leading agriculturists of Grant Township, residing on section 11, was born December 6, 1843, in the State of Vermont, his parents, Andrew and Phœbe Oakes, being natives of the same State. Mr. Oakes was reared on a farm in his native State, remaining there till 1865, when he accompanied his parents to Illinois. October 21, 1867, he was united in marriage to Miss Agnes Johnson, who was born August 8, 1841, a daughter of Andrew and Julia Johnson. Of the three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Oakes only one, Willis G., is living. A son, Leon A., and a daughter, Mary R., are deceased. Mr. Oakes lived in the State of Illinois six years, when he came to Union County, Iowa, being one of the pioneers of Grant Township. He then bought the farm where he still resides, which he has converted from a state of nature into a well-improved and highly-cultivated farm. His farm contains 160 acres, with comfortable residence and good farm buildings. He began life a poor man, but has always been an industrious and hard-working citizen, and by his persevering energy and good management has ac-

quired his present fine property. Mr. Oakes has lately turned his attention to stock-raising, and also manufactures cheese. In politics he casts his suffrage with the Republican party.

MARTIN MILLER, county auditor, Union County, is serving the first year of his second term in that capacity, his first election occurring in the fall of 1883, succeeding C. H. Faller, who had served two years. He was born in Mercer County, Illinois, in 1842, and was reared a farmer. He married Senora Seiver, born in Indiana, and removed to Rock Island, Illinois, with her parents, when a child. Mr. Miller came to Union County in 1869, settling upon a farm in Lincoln Township. He purchased 160 acres of new land, which he improved and cultivated. He now owns 320 acres, and is engaged in stock-raising. Politically he has usually affiliated with the Democratic party. He was elected to his present position on the Greenback ticket. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have two children—a son, born in 1863, has charge of the farm; a daughter, Nettie, was born in 1867.

EDWARD S. HUNTINGTON, one of the successful agriculturists of Lincoln Township, Union County, is a native of Onondaga County, New York, born June 15, 1841, a son of Daniel H. Huntington, deceased, who was a native of Litchfield, Connecticut. Edward S., the subject of this sketch received a good education in his youth, at the common schools and the Onondaga Academy. His father being a farmer he was reared to that avocation, which he has made his life work. He came to Union County, Iowa, in the spring of 1869, when he settled in Highland Township, remaining there until he settled on his present farm, on section 32, Lincoln Township, in the year 1876. He has by diligence and good management met with success as a farmer, and is now the owner of a fine property of 245 acres. In connection with his general farming he is engaged in stock-raising, and is devoting considerable attention to the raising of short-horn cattle. Mr. Huntington was married November 1, 1868, to Miss Belle Perow, a daughter of Joseph Perow who is now deceased. Of the nine children born to this union, eight are still living, their names being as follows—Walter R., Robert S., Elmor E., Fred. D., Arthur L., Burt L., Ruth M. and Harry F. In his religious views Mr. Huntington is a member of the Evangelical church.

WADLEY B. LARRABEE, superintendent of the Creston city schools, was born in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, August 18, 1849. Beginning at the age of seventeen years he taught in the country schools of his native county, and of the adjoining county of Broome, New York, together with one year in the graded school at Great Bend, Pennsylvania, until 1871, when he entered Hillsdale College, Michigan. During his college career he taught classes in mathematics several terms. Graduating June 17, 1875, he soon afterward returned to Pennsylvania, and was chosen principal of Pleasant Mount Academy. His administration of the affairs of this institution, which covered a period of three years, was attended with marked success, as was indicated by its widely-extended influence and rapidly increasing attendance. At the close of the academic year, in 1878, he resigned, to accept the office of superintendent of the schools of Wayne County to which he had been elected May 7, of that year. While occupying the latter position he saw that it presented opportunities for usefulness that are seldom properly appre-

ciated—that the duties of a county superintendent should be far more extensive than simply the performance of office work and repeated examinations of teachers. Accordingly, with characteristic energy and executive ability, he thoroughly organized the educational forces of the county, inspired the teachers to greater zeal and effort, and caused his influence to be felt in every one of the 220 schools under his care. His success in this office was so signal that he was accorded a unanimous re-election in 1881, and a second re-election in 1884 was assured when he declined to be a candidate, on account of his having determined to engage in educational work in the West. Enjoying the personal friendship, and receiving the hearty indorsement of Hon. J. P. Wickersham, LL. D., for many years superintendent of public instruction in Pennsylvania, together with that of other eminent educators of the State, positions were not wanting from which to choose He was elected superintendent of schools at three different points in the West at about the same time, viz.: Helena, Montana, Humboldt, Nebraska, and Creston, Iowa. Accepting the latter position, he entered upon his duties in September, 1884; he is therefore now in the third year of his administration of the school affairs of Creston, enjoying the full support of the people of this thriving city, whose greatest pride is her public schools. In these are employed thirty teachers, and 1,360 pupils are enrolled. To his successful experience as a teacher and superintendent Professor Larrabee has added a no less successful career as a conductor and instructor of teachers' institut . The reputation achieved in this line of work in Pennsylvania, confirmed and emphasized by his later experience in the West, has secured abundant calls for like work in the future. Energetic, enthusiastic, capable, with marked executive ability, and thoroughly conversant with the work of public instruction, a continuance is assured of the success he has already attained, as also a large place in the ranks of educational leaders of Iowa. Professor Larrabee was married in Lenox, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, to Miss Ella Rood, June 30, 1875. They have two children living—Wayne and Bennie. A daughter, Nettie May, died in infancy.

C. FRANCIS, a prominent agriculturist of Platte Township, engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 31, is a son of Alfred P. and Mary Francis, his parents being natives of the State of New York. He was born in the same State, the date of his birth being May 12, 1833, and there grew to manhood, his youth being spent in assisting his father on the farm. He was married in the year 1860, to Miss Georgeina I. Davidson, who was born September 7, 1839, a daughter of George and Rachel (Brownlee) Davidson, who were both born in the State of Pennsylvania. To Mr. and Mrs. Francis have been born ten children—Mary C., born May 17, 1861; Franie M., born November 7, 1862; Laura R., born December 8, 1864; Charles J., born December 31, 1866; Elizabeth B., born December 22, 1868; Anna E., May 19, 1871; James S., born September 27, 1874; Alfred R. and George C. (twins), born May 20, 1876, and Frank A., born November 13, 1878. Mr. Francis came to Iowa in 1854, and entered land in Marshall County, on which he located in 1860, remaining there five years. He then removed to Boone County, where he spent six years, and from there came to Union County, where he has since made his home. He has been successful in his agricultural pursuits, and is now the owner of his present fine farm, which contains 200 acres of well-improved land, a commodious house, large barn, and other good farm buildings, and is identified with the best farmers of Union County, and since coming here he has by his honorable and upright dealings gained the confidence and respect of

all who know him. He has held various local offices of trust in the township, serving as township trustee and school director. In politics he casts his suffrage with the Republican party.

HOMER K. BURKET, senior member of the firm of Burket Brothers, funeral directors and embalmers, and dealers in window shades, picture frames, moldings, etc., purchased the business of his cousin, and conducted it alone until September 1, 1886, when he was joined by his brother, T. N. Burket. He had also handled sewing machines, while his brother, in 1884, embarked in the window furnishings, picture frames, etc. The brothers consolidated their different branches of business, and are prepared to furnish to the public anything in their line of goods. They are located on the corner of Maple and Montgomery streets. The business was established by H. K. Burket, a cousin of the present proprietors. Our subject has been a resident of that city since 1879. He was born in Dixon, Illinois, in 1858. In 1873 he removed with his father's family to Tipton, Iowa, where he lived until he came to Creston. He was married in this city, to Miss Ella Gibson, a daughter of the Rev. Josiah Gibson. T. N. Burket was born at Dixon, Illinois, in 1863.

WILLIAM G. BLACK, section 20, Lincoln Township, is a native of Illinois born in LaSalle County, July 14, 1858, a son of Alonzo S. Black, a prominent old settler of that county, removing there from his native State, Pennsylvania, in an early day. Our subject was given good educational advantages, attending school at Aurora, Illinois, and Valparaiso, Indiana. He came to Iowa in the fall of 1883, and located on the farm where he now lives, which contains 260 acres of choice land, all well improved. In the fall of 1884 he went to Creston and dealt in stock until the following July, when he returned to his farm, which he has since conducted, and at the same time deals quite extensively in stock. He is one of the enterprising young men of the county, and is fast gaining many friends among the business men as well as in social circles. He was married January 13, 1881, to Ida M. Banker, daughter of Seley Banker, of Sand Creek Township. They have had two children—Clarinda Pearl, who died August 31, 1885, in her second year, and Minnie Juanita, born September 5, 1886. Mr. Black is a member of the Odd Fellows order.

WILLIAM M. LEECH, farmer and stock-raiser, section 26, Highland Township, was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, December 17, 1838; a son of James and Nancy A. Leech, now of Lucas County, Iowa, natives of Virginia, the father born in Rockbridge, and the mother in Botetourt County. His father was a son of John Leech, who was also a native of Virginia, and his mother was a daughter of William McKnight, who was of Scotch-Irish parentage, and a soldier in the war of 1812. His parents were among the early settlers of Lucas County, Iowa, locating on wild land. Their first house was a small log cabin, in which the family lived until better accommodations could be prepared, and the land made ready for cultivation. Our subject was reared a farmer, and has made that vocation the work of his life. He has been successful, and now owns a good farm of 240 acres. He went from Lucas County to Allen County, Kansas, in the fall of 1867, and in 1874 came to Union County, and located on the farm on which he now lives, which at that time was a tract of barren prairie land. He pays especial attention to the raising of horses and cattle, and

has made a decided success of that industry. Mr. Leech was married February 20, 1866, to Rachel A. Courtney, daughter of George and Elecy J. Courtney, who came from Virginia to Iowa, in 1851, and settled in Lucas County. To Mr. and Mrs. Leech have been born six children—Preston M., died aged six years; Arthur A., Julia A., George C., Elmer E. and Roy, died in infancy. Mr. Leech has been trustee of his township eight years, and at present is serving as school director. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church.

W. MORROW, of the firm of Morrow Brothers, stock-dealers of Union Township, is a son of William Morrow who came to Union County with his family in 1864, purchasing 280 acres of the farm now occupied by the brothers. There were then about sixty acres improved. In 1871 the parents removed to Afton. William Morrow was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, October 31, 1807, and grew to manhood in his native county. He removed to Guernsey County, Ohio, with his family, thence to Illinois, coming from Lawrence County, that State, to Union County. The children of William Morrow and wife are—Robert F., of San Francisco, California, a member of the Board of Trade of that city and a director of the Bank of California, was formerly interested in the mines, and his wealth is estimated at several millions; Mrs. Martha J. Bragg, of Union County; Mrs. Mary E. Lorimer, of Great Bend, Kansas; Mrs. Dorcas W. Hawkins, of Richland County, Illinois; Mrs. Esther Laughlin, who removed to Kansas after marriage, and has since died; William B., who was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, as a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-second Ohio Infantry, and was lost at the battle of the Wilderness, and James C., who is associated with his brother W. W., in business. He resides in Kansas where the brothers have large farming and stock interests. W. W. has charge of the business interests of the firm in Union County. He was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, in 1849, and married Miss Mary E. Roberts, daughter of C. G. Roberts, of Union Township.

ISAAC K. WHITE, one of the early settlers of Union County, was born in Caledonia County, Vermont, August 10, 1825. His father, John White, was a native of Massachusetts, and his paternal grandfather was born in New Hampshire, and of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His maternal ancestry was of Dutch origin. William White, the grandfather, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. John White married Sarah Kendall, and immediately immigrated to Vermont. They first settled in Washington County, and later went to Caledonia County. When Isaac K. was two years old his parents returned to Washington County, where they passed the remainder of their days. John White was twice married, Isaac being a child of the second marriage. His first wife was Lucy Blanchard. There were fifteen children by both marriages, fourteen of whom grew to maturity. The family consisted of eight sons and seven daughters. Four sons and four daughters are living. Only two of the family settled in Iowa; Stephen, who was the youngest child of the first marriage and our subject. Stephen came in 1855 and purchased a farm in Jones Township, where he lived until his death. Isaac K. was married in Manchester, New Hampshire, to Miss Elizabeth Gregg, who was born in Windham December 18, 1827. Her parents were Samuel and Janette (Dickey) Gregg, natives of New Hampshire, and of Scotch-Irish descent. Her father died when she was sixteen months old, and her mother afterward married David Dickey (not a relative). Mrs. White was reared in Manchester, where her

mother died in 1880, aged eighty years. She had eleven children by her first marriage: five of whom grew to maturity and three are now living. In the spring of 1856 Mr. White removed with his family to Iowa, having been here and made his location the previous autumn. He settled on section 5 in Jones Township, although his farm was on sections 5, 8, 9 and 6. He first bought 320 acres, which he afterward increased to 900 acres. He still owns his original farm. But few families had settled in that township, when Mr. White made his home there, he and his brother, Stephen, being among the earliest. He occupied the place until the spring of 1885, when he removed to Afton, where he has a pleasant home. Mr. and Mrs. White have had nine children—seven sons and two daughters. All are living except the oldest, William Edgar, who died at the age of seven months. The others are—John F., Kendall D., Lewis C., Edward E., Jennie G., Cora B., Charles S. and Arthur L.

HENRY WICK, one of the pioneer settlers of Union County, engaged in farming on section 12, Sand Creek Township, where he has 142 acres of well-improved land, is a son of J. C. and Mary (Holly) Wick, his father a native of Germany and his mother of Tennessee. He was born in Gallatin County, Illinois, May 20, 1843, and when very young was taken by his parents to Schuyler County, Missouri, and from there they went to Burlington, Iowa, when it was but a small town. At the age of twelve years he accompanied his parents to Union County, Iowa, they settling on section 2, Sand Creek Township. At the age of eighteen years he volunteered in defense of his country, enlisting in Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and after serving three years was honorably discharged at Davenport, Iowa. When the Wick family first came to Union County Indians were numerous, and our subject's early companions were the Indian children, with whom he used to run races and go fishing and hunting. He began life on his own account on section 12 of Sand Creek Township, where he has since made his home, and in his agricultural pursuits has met with success. Mr. Wick was married July 30, 1865, to Martha J. Brown, born November 4, 1844. They have eleven children—John P., George H., Rosa J., Charles A., William S., Alma, David E., Frank W., James G., Bertha M., Herbert F. In his political views Mr. Wick is independent. He is a member of Henry Keating Post, of Afton.

TRUMAN H. WHEELER, confectioner and proprietor of general restaurant, settled in Afton in 1872, and established his present business in 1878. He was born in Chautauqua County, New York, July 22, 1834. He was reared in his native county, to the occupation of a farmer. When twenty-one years of age he went to Toledo, Ohio, and engaged in the coopering business at East Toledo. April 16, 1861, immediately after the bombardment of Fort Sumter, he enlisted in Company E, Fourteenth Ohio Infantry, and served three months. At the expiration of that time he re-enlisted in the First Michigan Cavalry, a regiment that made a noble record, second to none. Mr. Wheeler followed the fortunes of this regiment until the battle of Cold Harbor, May 17, 1864, where he lost his right leg by a grape-shot in the terrible charge on the enemy's works. He was in the hospital until the following November, and was then discharged. He participated in all the cavalry fights in which the regiment took part. In 1865 he came to Iowa, first settling in Mt. Pleasant, where he was for a time engaged in clerking. He was married to Amanda Johnson, at Osceola, Clarke County,

Iowa, December 31, 1873. They have four daughters—Nettie, Grace, Edith and Mabel—ranging in age from five to twelve years. Mr. Wheeler is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Afton, and politically affiliates with the Republican party.

JEREMIAH F. HURLEY has been a resident of Creston since 1881, and of Union County since 1875. He was born in Oneida County, New York, in 1855, and was reared in his native county. His father, Jeremiah Hurley, Sr., removed with his family to Illinois in 1867, and to Union County in 1875. He settled on a farm in Spaulding Township, which he sold in 1881, and then removed to Creston. Our subject was employed for some time as bookkeeper for Joseph Norton, grain dealer. In 1877 he was candidate for county superintendent of schools. There were three candidates in the field at that time, and the successful one was Miss J. E. Lester. In 1880 he was the Greenback candidate for county recorder, but his party was not strong enough to elect him. He served as justice of the peace in Spaulding Township, and is now serving his second term in Creston, his office being in the Eagle Block. He is a veteran of the fire department, having been a member of that organization five years. Politically he is a Greenbacker.

JAMES T. McCANN, residing on section 30, Lincoln Township, was born in Morristown, New Jersey, October 1, 1853, a son of John and Margaret E. (Burke) McCann, who were natives of Ireland, the father born in County West Meath. He immigrated to the United States in 1846, when he settled in New Jersey, remaining in that State till 1854, when he removed to Hancock County, Illinois. In October, 1874, he came to Union County, Iowa, where he lived till his death, which occurred March 17, 1877. His widow is still living, and makes her home with her son, James T. They were the parents of six children, of whom five are yet living, our subject being the eldest. Their names are—James T., Eugene, Mary J., Rachel E. and Josephine R. James T. McCann was reared and educated in Hancock County, Illinois, remaining there till he ained his majority, when he came to Union County, Iowa, in 1874. He was reared a farmer, and has always followed that avocation. He was united in marriage June 22, 1882, to Miss Anna Mullen, a daughter of the late Edward Mullen, and to them have been born two children—Margaret O. and Rose M. Since coming to Union County Mr. McCann has served as township clerk for five years. He has also been president of the School Board, on which he is at present holding the position of secretary. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church, his wife also belonging to the same church.

R. T. McKEE, section 8, Douglas Township, is a farmer, horticulturist, apiarist and teacher. He was born in Adams County, Ohio, February 22, 1847. His parents, John and Nancy (Demint) McKee, are natives of Ohio, of French and Irish descent, and reside in Highland Township, Union County. Mr. McKee was brought up on a farm and in the occupation of milling. He was sixteen years of age when he immigrated to Illinois, living in Henry and Livingston counties three years; then was in Ohio again until 1872, when he came to Afton, Union County, resided there five years teaching; and he finally settled on his present farm of fifty-five acres in March, 1875, where he is cultivating nearly all kinds of fruits, and has an apiary of thirty-five stands of hybrid bees. In his social relations he is a member of the

order of Odd Fellows, in which he has passed all the chairs, taking all the degrees. In his political views he sympathizes with the Republicans. He was first married in Afton, Union County, to Gertie Painter, who was born in Illinois in 1852, and died in 1880, leaving one child, James P. McKee. For his second wife Mr. McKee married, July 28, 1881, Rillie Yowell, widow of the late John Yowell. Her maiden name was Beckelhymer, and her parents reside in Douglas Township. By the latter marriage one child was born, named Blaine, who is now dead. Postoffice, Cromwell.

FRANZ W. BROCKMAN has been a resident of Afton since 1858. At that time he was in the employ of William Williams, with whom he came to Afton from Winterset, as a shoemaker. In the spring of 1859 Mr. Williams removed to Bethany, Missouri, and afterward died in the insane asylum. Mr. Brockman contemplated leaving with Mr. Williams, but was prevailed upon by the citizens to remain and open a shoe shop himself, as there was a vacancy made by the removal of Williams. Afton had no railroads then, and goods were hauled in wagons from Keokuk. Mr. J. S. Elliott, then a merchant of Afton, sent his teamster to Keokuk for a load of goods. The wagon was drawn by several oxen. Mr. Brockman improved this opportunity to send for his first stock of leather. His wealth consisted of about $150, all of which was required to purchase the lasts and leather necessary to open up business. This was his beginning. He soon established a large patronage and his business increased rapidly. After a time he began keeping a ready-made stock. He was engaged in the boot-and-shoe business, including the year he worked for Williams, sixteen years. He gradually went into the mercantile trade in connection with his other business, and has been engaged in general merchandising since 1874. Mr. Brockman was born in Westphalia, Germany, in 1833. When nineteen years of age he became apprenticed to the shoemaker's trade for a period of three years. While still serving his apprenticeship, in 1853, his father, Franz Joseph Brockman, immigrated with his family to America. Franz W. remained to finish his apprenticeship. The family settled in Iowa City, where the father died, in December, 1884. He was a farmer by occupation. Having served his time at his trade, Franz W. sailed from the port of Bremen in May, 1855, and was seven weeks making the voyage to New York City. Here he, with others of his party who came with him, was induced to purchase tickets to Rock Island from a brother countryman who promised to provide dinner for them free, and to see that they were started all right on their westward journey. He did not fulfill his promise, and charged the emigrants an exorbitant price for their dinner. Their troubles did not end here. The baggageman, to whom their tickets and baggage were entrusted, disappeared with the tickets, and they were compelled to purchase others before resuming their journey. Fortunately arrangements are now made to prevent such frauds being practiced on the emigrants. From New York they went to Albany by steamer, thence to Buffalo by railroad, thence to Detroit by steamer, thence to Chicago and Rock Island by railroad, by river to Muscatine, and then on foot to Iowa City. His parents brought with them to this country six children, and one son was born in this country. Three of the sons, all of whom had grown to manhood, died in the early winter of 1877 of typhoid fever. One daughter died in Germany. Five children are still living. Mrs. Brockman was formerly Christiana Bernhart, a native of Pennsylvania. They have ten children—seven sons and three daughters. They have lost three children by death. Mr. Brockman has been quite successful in business.

His little fortune of $150 that he expended in 1859 for lasts and leather has increased to a fine property. He owns a good store, well stocked, and has an excellent farm on section 25, in Sand Creek Township. In 1886 he visited his native land, and spent several weeks amid the scenes of his early life.

CURTIS G. ROBERTS, section 3, Union Township, came to Union County, Iowa, March 1, 1859, and settled on section 9, Lincoln Township, where he bought an unimproved farm. He fenced 100 acres, built a frame residence, and improved eighty acres, making it his home about six years, when he moved to section 30, Dodge Township. He subsequently lived two years in Afton, and in 1869 bought a farm on section 10, Union Township. In 1871 he went to Page County, returning to Union County, in 1878. He was born in Meigs County, Ohio, in 1825. His father, Solomon Roberts, was a native of Washington County, Pennsylvania, and his grandfather, Nathan Roberts, was born in Wales. Solomon Roberts married Polly Coleman, in Pennsylvania, and afterward moved to Ohio, where he passed the rest of his life. Curtis G. was the fifth of their nine children. He was married in Ohio to Catharine A. Beebe, sister of Dr. J. T. Beebe, of Afton. They have had a family of twelve children, nine of whom are living.

JOHN GIBSON, attorney at law, Creston, Iowa, became identified with the bar of Union County in May, 1877. He is a native of Columbiana County, Ohio. He was reared and educated in Illinois. He chose as his life work the profession of law, and after being admitted to the bar, in 1872, went to Pueblo, Colorado, where he engaged in practice, and at the same time devoted some attention to mining. In 1877 he came to Iowa, and located in Creston, where he became associated with John A. Patterson, Esq., in the practice of law. This partnership was continued four years, and in 1881 Mr. Gibson withdrew in order to devote his entire attention to his manufacturing interests. In 1883 he was elected president of the Iron Mountain Company of New York, that company owning the celebrated Iron Mountain at Durango, Mexico, the largest in the world. During the presidency of Mr. Gibson over $400,000 have been invested in establishing a plant at this mountain. Mr. Gibson's residence on Sycamore street, Creston, is one of the most beautiful in the city, and was erected in 1879. He is absent from home much of the time in the discharge of his official duties, and has practically abandoned his profession, although he is still numbered among the attorneys of the county.

CHRISTIAN N. MAYER, engaged in agriculture and stock-raising, has 280 acres of well-improved land, where he resides, on section 35, Douglas Township. He was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, his parents being Jacob M. and Fanny (Barr) Mayer, natives of the same State. At the age of sixteen years he came to Muscatine County, Iowa, continuing in the vocation of agriculture, in which he was trained from his youth. In 1862 he enlisted in Company G, Thirty-fifth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and was in the service of his country a little more than three years, participating in the battles of Vicksburg, Jackson, Red River, Nashville, Mobile, etc. He was ordered from Mobile to Davenport, this State, where he was honorably discharged, in 1865. He was married in Muscatine County, in 1867, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of George and Jada Hartman, who was born in Montour County, Pennsylvania, in 1843. Mr. and Mrs. Mayer have

seven children—Hattie E., Mary E., John H., Anna E., Elmer C., Roy B. and Ray H. (twins). Mr. Mayer built his residence in 1875, at a cost of about $700, and his barn in 1876, costing $2,500. On his place is a very fine maple and cottonwood grove. The fine specimen of a cottonwood growing near the house is a spontaneous tree. Mr. Mayer stands high in the esteem of his fellow-citizens, having held the various township offices, besides the city treasurership of Wilton Junction, Muscatine County; has also been supervisor and school director. He is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge at Creston. His start in the world was $500, left him by his mother.

WILLIAM M. SPARR, hardware and lumber merchant, Cromwell, was born in Blair County, Pennsylvania, November 5, 1843. His parents, John and Sarah (Hall) Sparr, were natives of that State also, and of German ancestry. After remaining on the home farm until he was twenty-five years of age, and attaining a good education, he came West, stopped one year (1868) in Mercer County, Illinois, and finally came to Cromwell, where he first began work in a lumber yard. He soon purchased an interest in the hardware store, and shortly afterward bought the remaining interest, so that he now carries on the sale of his well-selected stock alone. In both departments—hardware and lumber—he keeps on hand a full assortment, the total stock being about $10,000, and the annual aggregate of sales to about $30,000. Besides, he owns 160 acres of well-cultivated land in Ringgold County, and a pleasant home in Cromwell, all the proceeds of his own honest efforts, as he had nothing when he started out in life for himself. By his reasonable prices and fair dealing he is commanding a large trade. He is a member of Cromwell Lodge, No. 324, A. F. & A. M., has been a member of the School Board and Township Board for several years, and in politics is a Republican. In 1867, in Pennsylvania, Mr. Sparr married Rebecca Snively, a native of that State, and they are now the parents of four children—Frank V., Fred G., Fanny Bell and Fairy Dell.

J. L. HAVERICK, real-estate dealer and insurance agent at Creston, has been engaged in his present business in this city since 1881. He was first associated with S. G. Lee, and later with A. J. Bivens. He has been alone since July 1, 1885. His location is No. 1, Eagle Block. Mr. Haverick came to Creston in 1872. He was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, in October, 1849, where he was reared and educated. His father, Vincent Haverick, is still a resident of that county. When our subject first came to Creston he was employed by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, and afterward clerked for several dry-goods firms for several years. He had but a few dollars when he came, and has worked his own way to his present position. He has a younger brother in Creston, employed by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. Mrs. Haverick was formerly Miss Lina Cournelis, daughter of Roland Cournelis of Dallas, Texas. They have one son—Willie Vincent.

TRUMAN SWAINE, one of the principal merchants of Afton, has been connected with the mercantile business at this place since September 12, 1874. At that time he engaged as clerk for W. K. Syp & Co. In the fall of 1878 he became a partner, and the firm name was Syp & Swaine. Several changes have been made in this firm. The first change was made by the withdrawal of

Mr. Syp, and the firm became Swaine Brothers, and later, Swaine Brothers & Syp. In January, 1886, Mr. Swaine became sole proprietor. He was born in Erie County, New York, in 1857. He resided in Buffalo until he came to Afton. An elder brother, George Swaine, came here several years previous, and is now at Tingley, Ringgold County. Mr. Swaine's father, James Swaine, is still a resident of Buffalo, New York. Mr. Swaine married Miss Augusta B. Ralph, a native of Buffalo. They have three children—Olive, Edna and Alvin Ralph. Mr. Swaine is a successful merchant, and his store is well stocked. The main room is 20 x 120 feet; second floor 80 x 20 feet, and cellar of the same dimensions as the main room. His stock includes dry-goods, boots and shoes, clothing, groceries, etc. He is genial, courteous and accommodating, and deserves the large patronage he gets.

D. S. CLARKE, President of the First National Bank, of Creston, is a gentleman of long experience in his special calling, beginning, in 1855, as bookkeeper for the banking house of W. P. Brazleton & Co., at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. November 1, 1857, he became the senior partner of the banking firm of Clarke & Whiting, in that city, he being then but nineteen years of age. In the fall of 1858 the firm started in that place a branch of the State Bank of Iowa; and in 1862 Mr. Clarke withdrew from the State bank, and, with others, established the banking firm of Saunders, Kibbon & Co. This institution was succeeded in 1864 by the First National Bank of Mt. Pleasant, of which Mr. Clarke was cashier. In 1868 he was appointed cashier of the First National Bank of Washington, Iowa. Continuing in this position until 1873, he returned to the First National Bank of Mt. Pleasant, where he was cashier for ten years; then came to Creston. Mr. Clarke is a native of the Keystone State, having been born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, in 1838. His wife, *née* Decela Weaver, is also a native of that State. They have six children, two sons and four daughters.

DAVID M. MOLER, of Afton, was born in Franklin County, Ohio, March 30, 1841. His father, John Moler, was a native of Virginia. When a young man he removed to Ohio, and settled upon the land where the city of Columbus was located, and later he settled thirteen miles west of that place, where he passed the remainder of his days. He died about 1850. The mother has been dead many years. David M. was reared on his father's farm. He enlisted June 22, 1861, in Company K, Twenty-sixth Ohio Infantry. His first service was in West Virginia. From there he went to Kentucky, and on to Nashville, and with Buell took part in the second day's battle of Shiloh. He was at the siege of Corinth in 1862, and soon after returned to Louisville, Kentucky, in pursuit of General Bragg. He participated in the battle of Stone River, thence to Chattanooga under General Crittenden. He was engaged in the battle of Chickamauga, where he was taken prisoner and confined first at Belle Island, then at other prisons at, and near Richmond. He suffered all the horrors that characterized rebel prisons. After eight months of this suffering he was paroled and sent to the Union lines, and was mustered out at Huntsville, Alabama, January 16, 1865. Only those who have had experience in rebel prisons can realize the terrible suffering and torment he underwent during his eight months of prison life. He has never fully recovered from that bitter experience. He was a gallant soldier, and his record is without a stain. He returned to Georgeville, Ohio, where his relatives were living, where he remained until 1866, then came to Union

County, and settled one mile east of Afton. In 1867 he returned to Ohio, and was married to Cynthia A. Killgore, born and reared in Fayette County, Ohio, and removed with her parents to Madison County, where she was married. Mr. Moler returned to Union County in 1868. He still owns his original eighty acres and also other land, 400 acres altogether. He removed to Afton August 6, 1883, where he has a pleasant home. Mr. and Mrs. Moler have two children—Hutson E. and Minnie Evangeline.

WILLIAM SCHERER, one of the pioneer settlers of Union County, and a prosperous and well-known citizen of Sand Creek Township, is a native of Germany, where he grew to manhood, and being a poor boy his educational advantages were very limited, he being obliged early in life to help in the maintenance of his father's family. At the age of twenty-five years he sailed for America, landing at New York, May 1, 1854. He at once proceeded to Burlington, Iowa, which at that time was but a small place. He was married in February, 1856, to Miss Frederica Abel, and to this union have been born five children—Sophia, Charles, William and Frank are living, and Willie is deceased. Mr. Scherer is at present engaged in farming, on section 15, Sand Creek Township, where he has 480 acres under a fine state of cultivation. He began life in very limited circumstances, and for some time worked as a day laborer on railroads. By hard work, strict economy combined with good management, he has prospered beyond his expectations, and on his farm he has a comfortable residence, and a commodious barn, and other farm buildings, which are among the best in his neighborhood. He is devoting considerable attention to stock-raising in connection with his farming pursuits, in which he is meeting with success. In politics Mr. Scherer casts his suffrage with the Republican party. Since coming to Union County he has served as school treasurer, pathmaster and school director. Both Mr. and Mrs. Scherer are members of the Evangelical association.

T. S. VAN PATTEN, dealer in grain and live-stock at Afton, is located on the northeast corner of the square. He has been engaged in his present business at this point since 1878, although he came here two years previous to that time. He is a native of the Empire State, born in Jefferson County, in 1837. His father, Simon Van Patten, immigrated to Rock County, Wisconsin, in 1849, where he still resides, at the advanced age of nearly eighty years. Mr. Van Patten was reared a farmer, an occupation he followed many years. He was engaged in buying and shipping stock five years previous to coming to Afton. He understands his business thoroughly, and has the confidence of the public, being recognized as an upright, conscientious business man. Mrs. Van Patten was formerly Miss Kate Guthridge, a daughter of D. J. Guthridge, deceased. She was born in Union County. They have one child, born in Afton, in 1882.

ELMER J. EMMONS, of the hardware firm of Syp & Emmons, has been a resident of Union County since 1867, and of Afton since 1873. He was born in Cortland County, New York, in 1842, and when a child removed to Onondaga County with his parents. His father, W. A. Emmons, was also a native of New York, where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1882. His mother is still living, and resides with a daughter, at Syracuse. Mr. Emmons' grandfather, Jonathan Emmons, settled early in the

State of New York. Our subject was reared to the occupation of a farmer. His school-days ended at Onondaga Academy, which he left to enlist in August, 1862, as a member of Company E, Forty-fourth New York Infantry, and served about one year, when he was discharged for disability. In 1865 he, with his friend J. D. Spaulding, went to the oil regions of West Virginia, where he remained about one year, then returned to Syracuse, New York, and was for a time engaged in bookkeeping for I. A. Thurber & Co., in that city. He came West in 1867, accompanied by J. D. Spaulding. They made settlements in the northwest part of the county, and were the first settlers in what is now Spaulding Township, which received its name from Mr. Spaulding. Mr. Emmons still owns the farm upon which they first settled. He now owns 520 acres of land in the county. In the fall of 1872 he was elected clerk of the court, and in January, 1873, he removed to Afton. He held the office eight years and made a very competent and popular clerk. He married Miss Lillie Hays, a daughter of Dr. Thomas Hays, and they have two children—Dena and Blanche.

PHILIP L. HARSH, section 35, Highland Township, is one of the enterprising farmers of Union County. He was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, February 16, 1836. His father, Daniel Harsh, was a native of the same county, and in 1837 removed with his family to Clinton County, Ohio, and thence, in 1849, to Bureau County, Illinois. Our subject was reared a farmer, receiving a common-school education. He remained at home until manhood, and in April, 1861, came to Iowa, and lived in Davis County until the following September, when he came to Union County, and located where he now lives, in Highland Township. His land was entirely unimproved, but he went to work, and now has his 220 acres under fine cultivation, with good buildings, groves, fences, etc., and well stocked. For seven years he bought and shipped stock to Chicago, in connection with attending to his farm. He was married in October, 1871, to Belle Oliver, daughter of Simon Oliver, of Carl, Adams County, Iowa. To them were born three children—Francis D., Mary B. and Julius H. Mrs. Harsh died June 29, 1879, and June 16, 1881, Mr. Harsh married Mary D. Campbell, daughter of Griffith Campbell. Mr. Harsh twice offered his services to his country during the war of the Rebellion, but was rejected on account of physical disability. He has served his township eight years as justice of the peace, and two and a half years as clerk. He is a member of the Congregational, and his wife of the Methodist Episcopal church.

LEVI T. DEAVER, retired farmer, residing on section 16, postoffice Thayer, is an old and eminently-esteemed pioneer citizen of Union County. He was born July 18, 1817, in Morgan County, Ohio. His parents, Levi and Nancy (Hause) Deaver, were natives of Maryland, who lived and died in Morgan County. Mr. Deaver, whose name heads this notice, passed his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, following the independent vocation of agriculture. In 1864 he came to Union County, where he has been successful in the pursuits of life. He commenced in life without any means, and but a limited education, but, being a man of sterling worth and irreproachable character, he has succeeded well, besides forming a large circle of appreciative acquaintances; is prominently identified with the Christian church, as is also his wife, and takes a deep interest in all religious and educational enterprises. Politically, he is a Democrat. For forty years he has been practicing as a veterinary physician and surgeon. In 1840, in Ohio, Mr. Deaver married Miss Catharine,

daughter of William and Sallie Forraker, the latter a relative of Governor Forraker, of Ohio. Three children have been born by this marriage—Levi J., who married Martha Leach, and has three children—Charles, Almer and Dora; William J., who married Laura Andrews, and has two children—Ida and Pearly; and Clara M., now the wife of Walter Babbs, and has one child—S. Clark.

JUDGE JAMES W. McDILL, one of the well-known pioneers of Union County, came to Afton, April 16, 1857, having been identified with the county about thirty years. He was born in Butler County, Ohio, March 4, 1834. When he was quite young his father, Rev. John McDill, removed with his family to Hanover, Jefferson County, Indiana, where he became the settled pastor of a church, and died in 1840. He commenced his preparatory studies at Hanover College, and in 1845 returned to Ohio and continued his studies at Salem Academy, South Salem, Ross County. In 1851 he entered the junior class of Miami University and graduated in 1853. After this event he taught school one year in Kossuth, Iowa, then returned to Ohio and began the study of law at Columbus with Messrs. Galloway & Mathews. He was admitted to the bar at Akron, September 30, 1856. In October following he came to Iowa, spending the winter at Burlington, coming to Afton the following spring. In August, 1857, he was married to Miss Narcissa Fullenwider, daughter of Samuel Fullenwider, who emigrated from Kentucky to Iowa in 1837. He was one of the well-known pioneers of Iowa, and a member of the first State Senate. He now lives with his son-in-law, Judge McDill, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. Upon locating at Afton he at once formed a partnership with Reuben Riggs, Esq., in the firm name of Riggs & McDill. In 1859 Mr. Riggs went to Pike's Peak, and several years later was frozen to death in Kansas. In the fall of 1858 Mr. McDill was elected county judge of Union County, and in 1859 he was elected county superintendent of schools, the first one elected to that position in Union County. In November, 1861, Governor Grimes, who had then became United States Senator, appointed Judge McDill clerk of the Senate committee on the District of Columbia, of which committee Governor Grimes was chairman. This position he filled until February, 1862, when he was appointed by Governor Chase, then Secretary of the Treasury, to a clerkship in the Third Auditor's office at Washington, serving a part of the time as chief of the division of war claims. In May, 1865, he opened an office in Washington and entered into a partnership in the prosecution of war claims. In October, 1866, he returned to Afton and formed a law partnership with N. W. Rowell. In the fall of 1868 he was elected judge of the Circuit Court, assuming the duties of that office January 1, 1869, being the first circuit judge of his district. Two years later he was appointed district judge to fill the office made vacant by the elevation of Judge Day to the Supreme Bench, and was afterward elected by the people. In August, 1872, Judge McDill was the Republican nominee for Congress for the Eighth District. He accordingly resigned the office of judge, and was elected and re-elected in 1874, serving in the Forty-third and Forty-fourth Congress. In the former he was a member of the committee on the Pacific Railroad, and in the latter on public lands; and when the difficulty attending the Presidential election of 1876 occurred he was a member of the committee appointed to inquire into the privileges of the House as to the electoral count. He declined a third term in Congress, and resumed the practice of his profession. In 1881 President Garfield, having appointed Samuel Kirkwood, then United States Senator, to the office of Secretary of the Interior, Governor Gear appointed Judge McDill

United States Senator to fill the vacancy made by the promotion of Kirkwood. He took his seat March 8, 1881. Upon the convening of the Iowa State legislature the following winter he was elected to serve the unexpired term, which extended to March 4, 1883. At the close of his service as United States Senator he again resumed the practice of law. April 4, 1884, he became a railroad commissioner by the appointment of Governor Sherman, a position he still holds. No higher compliment to Judge McDill can be given than to say that the numerous high positions to which he has been called have been entirely unsolicited by him. The ability and integrity that have attended the discharge of the duties and responsibilities that have devolved upon him is evidenced by his many calls to positions of public trust. It may be truly said that his professional and official career is without a blemish. It is unnecessary to say that he is a Republican, and ever a warm advocate of the principles of the great party with which he is identified. In 1885 he removed with his family to Creston, and is now of the law firm of McDill & Sullivan. Judge McDill and wife have five children, four daughters and one son—Edith L., wife of Samuel Light, of Barber County, Kansas; Kate H., Blanche, Madge and Wilson F.

THOMAS G. SNAIR, sheriff of Union County, residing at Creston, is a native of Hancock County, Illinois, born November 12, 1851. He was elected to his present office on the Democratic ticket in 1885, his opponent being R. J. McKee, of Afton. His popularity is attested by the fact that, although Union County is largely Republican, he was elected by a majority of 485; succeeding Mark Blanchard, of Creston. Previous to his election as sheriff he had been engaged in railroading since the age of seventeen years, beginning his career as brakeman on the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad. In 1876 he engaged with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company as freight conductor, and was promoted to conductor of the fast-mail train, running that train the three years prior to his election to the office of sheriff. He has lived in Creston since 1876. His general popularity and fitness for his position were the motives that secured his nomination and election by the large majority mentioned. Mr. Snair was married, in Carthage, Illinois, to Miss Emma Hoppe, a native of Germany. They have one son—Joseph H. A.

MR. WOODS, one of Union County's pioneers, and a successful farmer living on section 32, Platte Township, is a native of Iowa, born September 29, 1849, a son of Michael and Polly (McVey) Woods, his father being a native of Tennessee and his mother of Ohio. At an early age he left his native county, Jefferson, in company with his parents, who settled in Ringgold County, where they remained but a short time, removing in 1857 to Union County where our subject has since lived. He experienced many of the privations as well as the pleasures of pioneer life in his youth, coming to Union County when wild animals were numerous, and before the Indians had left the surrounding country. His educational advantages were limited, his only opportunities for obtaining an education being the rude log-cabin schools of pioneer days. At the age of twenty-one years he began life on his own account, engaging in farming pursuits. March 3, 1870, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Page, born in Ohio, March 28, 1851, a daughter of Edward and Rachel (Caldwell) Page who were also natives of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Woods have had three children—Edward M., born January 28, 1871; Alice M., born July 21, 1872, died August 7, 1872, and Osbe.,

born November 9, 1878. Mr. Woods has been prosperous in his agricultural pursuits, and now owns 160 acres of valuable land where he resides, and by his honorable and upright dealings has won the respect of the entire community. In politics Mr. Woods casts his suffrage with the Republican party.

HARRY R. STALKER, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 3, Douglas Township, where he is the proprietor of a quarter-section of well-improved land. He was born on the Isle of Man, in 1850, the son of Edward and Jane (Kneale) Stalker, natives also of that island. During the year of his birth he was brought to this country by his parents, who located at Rochester, New York. In that city Mr. Stalker grew to manhood, learning the blacksmith's trade, as well as farming. After working at the trade four years, he returned to farming. He came to Union County in 1876, settling on the farm which he had purchased in 1874, perfectly wild, but which he has brought up to a high state of improvement, and now occupies. He commenced in life with no means but an intelligent design and willing hands; now he is well-to-do in the world, in this respect following the example of his father, who, when he landed in America had but six shillings, but is now wealthy and influential. Postoffice, Creston.

J. A. LEENS, head clerk of the locomotive department of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, at Creston, has long been in the employ of this company. His services began in 1871, as telegraph messenger boy, and in the the meantime he learned telegraphy. In the fall of 1873 he engaged with the Northwestern Railroad Company, being at Marshalltown, Iowa, Chicago and De Kalb, Illinois. He returned to Creston, and renewed his connection with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in 1874, as telegraph operator, and later, left that position to take charge of the time books, occupying the position of time-keeper. In July, 1883, he assumed the duties of his present position. Mr. Leens was born in Kane County, Illinois, in 1856. His father, Andrew Leens, removed with his family to Burlington, Iowa, in 1870. Mr. Leens is a man of much public enterprise, and is very highly esteemed as a citizen. He is at present a member of the city council; has served two terms as city clerk, and was one of the founders of the newspaper, *Every Sunday Morning*, still owning a half-interest in the paper. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party.

D. J. GUTHRIDGE, one of the early business men of Afton, was born in Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio, in 1811. He was reared to mercantile pursuits, and served an apprenticeship to the business in Xenia, Ohio. He was a merchant nearly all of his business life. He was married in his native State, to Mary Heston, born in Adams County, Pennsylvania, in 1821. In 1851 Mr. Guthridge removed with his family to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he lived three years, and came to Afton in 1855, entering at once into business here, shipping his stock of goods from Oskaloosa. At one time he had a store in Murray, and one at Quincy, Adams County, his residence being at Afton, where he carried on his main business. He died at Afton of paralysis, April 30, 1880. Mrs. Guthridge resides at Afton. They were the parents of seven children, two sons and five daughters, six are now living—Mrs. Elizabeth Sullivan, Mrs. Margueretta Davis, Adolphus, an attorney, residing on a farm near

Creston; Mrs. Belle Hammelrich, Mrs. Kate Van Patten and Darius J. A daughter, Emma Alice, died at the age of seven years. Mr. Guthridge was a man very highly respected in his community, and contributed a great deal to the advancement of the town.

DAVID ARNOLD, one of the prosperous agriculturists of Dodge Township, residing on section 26, is a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, born near Zanesville, August 6, 1826, a son of David Arnold who was a native of Little Falls, Herkimer County, New York. The father was a soldier in the war of 1812. He settled in Muskingum County, Ohio, in 1815, when Indians and wild animals were the principal inhabitants. He was a millwright by trade, and built many mills in Ohio. Our subject learned the same trade when a boy, working at it from the time he was large enough to handle tools, till within the last four or five years, and often operated mills which he had built. He worked on the first mill in Galesburg, Illinois, in 1850 and '51, and helped build mills in various places in Illinois and Iowa, in California and Arizona and some of the Territories. He has been in twenty-one States and nine Territories in the Union, and has visited all the leading cities. He was married December 29, 1853, in Chandlersville, Ohio, to Hettie M. Pierce, a daughter of the late Jonathan Pierce, who was an early settler of Zanesville, Ohio. To this union were born five children—Edward O., Minerva, Floretta, David P. and Laura B. Mr. Arnold came to Iowa, January 20, 1850, and worked on mills two years; then returned to Ohio and spent two years building mills. October 20, 1854, moved to Iowa, and to Union County, March 5, 1855, and in the spring of 1856 settled one-half mile west of his present farm, where he has since made his home. He was in the employ of the United States Government during the late war as detective, being Captain of a company of detectives. His wife died August 14, 1867, and November 14, of the same year, he was married to Miss Margaret M. Veith, a daughter of Frederick Veith, and of the six children born to them four are living—Mary A., William F., Nora M. and Grace M. Two sons, Frank and Charles, are deceased. Mr. Arnold has been prosperous in his farming pursuits, and has acquired a fine property, being the owner of 342 acres of choice land. He takes a deep interest in the Masonic fraternity, of which he has been a member for thirty-seven years.

H. OURS, farmer and stock-raiser, on section 36, Douglas Township, is the owner of a quarter-section of well-improved land. He was born in Pennsylvania, in 1839, the son of Joseph and Catherine (Newhart) Ours, natives also of the Keystone State, and of Pennsylvania ancestry. There Mr. Ours, whose name heads this sketch, was brought up at farming, which calling he has since pursued excepting the time he was in the army. In 1862 he enlisted in Company G, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, and was in the service three years; was in charge of the Vicksburg, Jackson, Mississippi, Red River, Guntown, Richmond, Tennessee, with Hood; was detailed on the ambulance corps; went to New Orleans, then to Mobile, and was finally mustered out at Davenport, Iowa. In Muscatine, Iowa, in 1866, he was married to Miss Anna R., daughter of George and Juda Hartman, natives of Pennsylvania. She also was born in that State, in 1842. Mr. and Mrs. Ours have had four children—Luella, Charles E., George W. and Edith V. Mr. Ours began in life with a fair education, but with no capital, and he has placed his land, which was perfectly wild when he purchased it, in a

fine state of cultivation. He has served his township as school director. In his political views he is a Republican. Mr. and Mrs. Ours and Luella, Charles E. and George W. are members of the Presbyterian church. Postoffice, Creston.

BARNARD SHERIDAN, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 14, Spaulding Township, where he is the owner of 240 acres of land, in a high state of cultivation. He was born in Will County, Illinois, October 11, 1851, and is a son of Barnard and Anna (Lynch) Sheridan, both natives of Ireland, and at present residing at Creston. Mr. Sheridan, the subject of our sketch, grew to manhood in his native county, trained to agricultural pursuits, which he has ever since successfully followed; has had a fair education, and taught school several terms; has held the office of commissioner of highways, and assessor of his township, and is at present the clerk of his township. Commencing in life with no means but his inherited abilities, he has succeeded in establishing a comfortable home. Of his wages as teacher he saved $1,200, which he invested in land that has risen in value. He was married in 1879, in Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Miss Anna, daughter of Patrick and Anna (Martin) McMenomy, natives of Ireland, who immigrated to America in 1852. Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan have one child—Michael by name. They are both members of the Catholic church. Postoffice, Creston.

ROBERT BISSET, foreman of locomotive repairs for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, Creston, is one of the veteran employes of this company, having occupied his present position since 1871. Mr. Bisset was born in Dunfermline, Fifeshire, Scotland, in 1834. His parents were Lawrence and Elizabeth Bisset. His mother died when he was but eleven years of age, and his father two years later. They left six children. Robert came to America with an elder sister and two brothers when he was fourteen years of age. He learned the trade of machinist in the Niles Locomotive Works, at Cincinnati, Ohio, then went to North Carolina, and worked at his trade until the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion, when he returned to Ohio, living at Sandusky four years prior to coming to Creston. He has been a member of the School Board of Creston since 1874, and is now serving his second year as president of that body. He has twice been a member of the common council. Politically he is a Democrat. Mr. Bisset was married in Cincinnati, to Miss Margaret Smith, who died in Creston, in October, 1879. His present wife was Elizabeth Johnson. By his first marriage he has seven children—four sons and three daughters; by his second marriage he has two sons and a daughter.

DAN V. GROESBECK, farmer and stock-raiser of Dodge Township, living on section 24, is a native of Iowa, born in Lee County, November 19, 1842. His father, Garrett L. Groesbeck, was a native of the State of New York, and in early life learned the millwright's trade, which he followed the greater part of his life. He attended the first land sale in Iowa, in 1836, but did not make his home in this State till two years later. He came to Union County, Iowa, in the spring of 1854, settling in New Hope Township, where he lived till his death, which occurred in 1876. Dan V., our subject, received his education principally in the select school at Ottumwa, Wapello County. He was reared a farmer, and has always followed that avocation, and in connection with his

farming pursuits he is devoting some time to raising stock. He was married in the spring of 1868, to Miss Sarah Fenner, a daughter of Joseph Fenner, who is deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Groesbeck have been born four children—Louise J., Herman F., Benjamin S., and Arthur H. In their religious faith they believe in the doctrines of the Baptist church. Mrs. Groesbeck is the owner of a good farm containing 220 acres of land.

FRANK H. BRUNING, Union County's oldest settler, and a successful farmer of Platte Township, living on section 34, is a native of Germany, born January 25, 1822, a son of William and Catherine Bruning, who were natives of the same country. He grew to manhood in his native land, being reared to the avocation of a farmer. At the age of twenty years he sailed from Bremen, Germany, landing at New Orleans, in October, 1842. A few days after his arrival he proceeded to St. Louis, Missouri, remaining there two years, when he went to St. Joseph, Missouri. He lived at St. Joseph until 1846, when he removed to Gentry County, Missouri, where he made his home till 1852. He was united in marriage to Miss Anna Veser, a native of Tennessee, born in October, 1829. To this union have been born eleven children—W. H., Caroline, Kittie, Louisa (deceased), J. L., J. D. (deceased), Nancy E., Thomas F., I. E., E. J. and Albert P. Early in the year 1852, in company with his friend, Mr. Bruning went up Grand River on a hunting and trapping expedition, and being much pleased with that part of the country determined to settle there with his family. While en route for that place they were obliged to turn from the regular road on account of high water, and after traveling several days and not finding the place where he intended to locate, Mr. Bruning left his family in camp, and with Mr. Ames proceeded to look for a home. He finally reached his present farm, and returning for his family brought them to this spot, settling here May 25, 1852, entering his land two years later. Here they experienced all the phases of pioneer life, bravely enduring the many privations, and by industry and good management have become well-to-do citizens, Mr. Bruning owning 240 acres of good land. He followed farming till within the past few years, since which he has been engaged most of his time in the nursery business. Twelve acres of his farm are devoted to orchard, and he has two acres of grape vines. He also devotes some time to bee culture, and has at present fifty stands of bees. In his political views Mr. Bruning is a Democrat. He is a member of the German Lutheran church. In the early history of Union County, a man was found dead on Grand River, and as he was thought to have been killed by Indians, strong threats were made against them. The Indians, being innocent of the deed, came to Mr. Bruning to consult with him what was best to do. He told them he would go to the settlement for them and explain the facts of the case, which he accordingly did, and for this he gained the good will of the Indians, they agreeing not to hunt within two miles of his dwelling, so that he might have wild game as well as they. They were ever his friends, and were always ready to do him a favor if it was in their power.

J. B. GIBSON, farmer, resides on section 14, Jones Township, where he owns 160 acres of land, was born January 16, 1840, in Bureau County, Illinois. His parents were Sanderson and Catherine (Custer) Gibson, the latter being a cousin to General George A. Custer, of the United States Army. They immigrated to Boone County, Iowa, where, in 1876, Mr. Gibson died, and his widow followed him to the unseen world

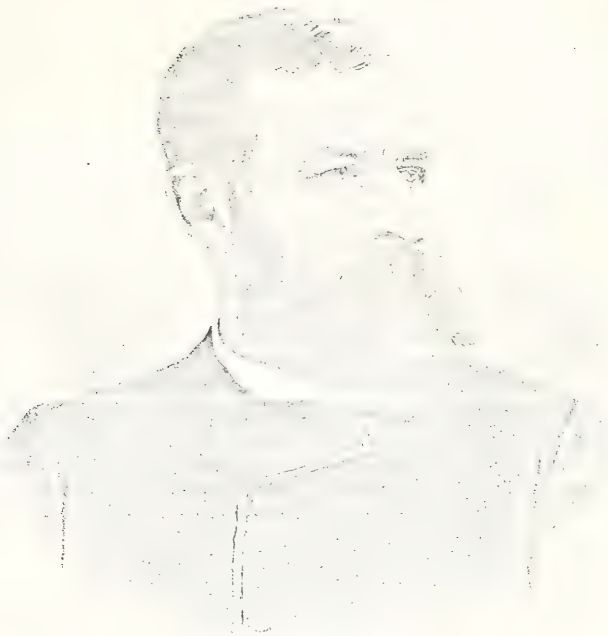
in 1884. The subject of this biographical notice was brought up on a farm in Bureau County, Illinois, moved to Boone County, Iowa, in 1876, and to Thayer, Iowa, in 1869, and has most of the time since followed his original calling. He served as postmaster at Thayer five years, under President Grant's administration. Shortly after that place was laid out, Mr. Gibson, in company with S. B. and A. Downing and L. A. Willard, purchased it, and he alone planted nearly all the trees now growing in and around Thayer, raising them from the seed. He was married in Boonesboro, Boone County, Iowa, in 1870, to Miss Marietta, daughter of G. W. and Eliza Carlile) Hoover, natives of Pennsylvania. She was born in Van Buren County, Iowa, in 1846, removed to Des Moines in 1853, and to Boonesboro in 1858, where she taught school seven years. They are the parents of four children, sons, three of whom are living—Win, Lewis and George R. Before closing it should be noticed that two brothers of Mr. Gibson were starved to death in Andersonville prison during the war, and that his father, who was a slaveholder in Virginia, liberated all his slaves on account of conscientious scruples.

W. KENDALL, of Creston, settled in Douglas Township in 1869. He purchased the west half of section 4, upon which no improvements had been made. Upon this farm he located with his family, made many improvements and occupied it until 1876, when he rented it and moved to Creston. In the fall of 1879 he disposed of his land to O. J. Silverthorne. When he first settled in Douglas Township what is now Spaulding Township was a part of it. He was a member of the School Board of that township four years. Mr. Kendall engaged the first teacher that taught in the town plat of Creston. The teacher was a Miss White, and the school was taught in the summer of 1870. In 1881 Mr. Kendall erected his fine residence on the corner of South Pine and Fremont streets. In 1872 he engaged with the Potter Plow Company of Monmouth, Illinois, with which he has since been connected. In 1876 he invented a very important device as an attachment to the New Departure Cultivator, manufactured by the company that he represents, and which he had then been engaged in selling four years. This is known as the tongueless cultivator. The improvement made by Mr. Kendall was a device for transporting and supporting the tongueless cultivator by rear supporting bars and suspending arms. This invention is regarded as one of great importance, and has been a source of much profit to the inventor. Mr. Kendall was born in the town of Athens, Somerset County, Maine, April 19, 1828. When fourteen years of age his parents removed to Middlesex County, Massachusetts. His father, T. P. Kendall, was a merchant by occupation, and died at his home in Middlesex County, in 1857, aged fifty-eight years. His mother, Lydia A. (Abbott) Kendall, died at the home of her son, John T., at Skowhegan, Maine, in 1883, aged eighty-three years. Both parents were natives of Andover, Massachusetts. In his early life Mr. Kendall was employed in his father's store, and later engaged in farming. In September, 1851, he went to California by the Nicaragua route, and returned in May, 1855. He was married in the autumn of that year, in Buda, Bureau County, Illinois, to Miss Mary E. Webb, also a native of Somerset County, Maine. In 1857 Mr. Kendall removed to Olmstead County, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming, and in 1864 removed to Bureau County, Illinois, where he lived five years in charge of a stock farm of 1,200 acres, known as the Maple Grove Stock Farm. At the expiration of this time he removed to Union County. Mr. and Mrs. Kendall have two sons and one daughter — Frank, born in

Bureau County, September 4, 1856, is a locomotive engineer on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, with his home at Creston; John C., born May 2, 1861, at Rochester, Minnesota, is also a locomotive engineer; Laura E., was born July 7, 1873, in Douglas Township. Mrs. Kendall was born in what is now Skowhegan, Maine, May 18, 1831. Her parents, Joseph B. and Martha (Weston) Webb, were natives of the same county. The family removed to Bureau County, Illinois, in 1851, where the parents lived until their decease.

GEORGE O. ICKIS, farmer and stock-raiser, section 33, Highland Township, was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, May 10, 1841. His father, John Ickis, was a native of Fredericksburg, Maryland born in 1801. In 1852 the family came to Iowa, and for three years lived in Keokuk. In the fall of 1854 the father came to Union County, and located in Union Township, the family moving to the county the following spring. At that time wild animals, such as deer, wolves, turkeys and wildcats were numerous, and Indians were the principal possessors of the soil. The noted chief, John Green, was almost a daily visitor at their house, and is well remembered by our subject. They were obliged to go to Indianola to mill, and to Keokuk for provisions. George O. remained at home until the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion, when he enlisted in the defense of the Union, and was assigned to Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and served over three years. He participated in the battles at Helena, Little Rock, Terre Noire, Little Missouri, Prairie De Ann, Poison Springs, Jenkins' Ferry, Spanish Fort, Fort Blakely, the capture of Mobile and many others of less importance. Since his return home he engaged in farming, and in the spring of 1871 located on the farm where he now lives, which contains 200 acres of choice land, all well improved with a pleasant residence and good farm buildings. Mr. Ickis has served his township as trustee and his county as deputy sheriff. He is a member of the Knights of Labor and the Grand Army of the Republic. He was married December 21, 1870, to Electa L. Turner, a native of Mercer County, Pennsylvania, daughter of George Turner, a resident of Highland Township.

WILLIAM H. CHRISTIE, M. D., located at Creston, April 28, 1874. He is the oldest resident physician of the place except Dr. Wilson. He was born in Bergen County, New Jersey, in 1844. When he was quite young his father, Daniel Christie, removed to New York City, and when he was eleven years old the family removed to Lee County, Illinois. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company K, Seventy-fifth Illinois Infantry. At the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, October 8, 1862, he was severely wounded, receiving three gunshot wounds within the space of a few minutes. He received a severe wound in the right shoulder and right hand and a flesh wound in the left arm. He lay in the hospital at Perryville until able to travel, and was then taken home; thence to the Marine Hospital until his discharge, which occurred in May, 1863. He had contemplated studying for the medical profession, but his wounds were so severe that it was two years before he was able to enter upon his course of study. In April, 1865, he entered the office of Dr. Chester Hart, of Ottawa, Illinois, as a student, where he remained two years, and in the meantime took his first course of lectures at Rush Medical College, Chicago. At the expiration of the two years he went to Tiskilwa, Bureau County, Illinois, where he remained six years. During the first year he completed his course at Rush Medical College, receiving from that



W. H. Christie

institution the degree of M. D. Dr. Christie stands high in the medical profession of Southern Iowa, and is a popular and successful practitioner. He is a member of the State and American medical societies, and was a member of the Board of Pension Examiners from 1876 until July, 1885. He was married October 30, 1868, to Miss Sarah M. Whitford, a native of Illinois, and daughter of C. P. Whitford, formerly from Vermont. They have had three children—Charles, Ralph and Mabel. Charles was killed by the cars at Creston, in March, 1883, at the age of nine years. Politically, Dr. Christie is an active, earnest Republican. He cast his first Presidential vote for General Grant, in 1868. He was only eighteen years old when he entered the army, and at nineteen years of age was president of a union league. In 1884 he was a member of the National Republican Convention, at Chicago, from the Eighth District. He enjoys the excitement of political controversy, and has much influence in the councils of his party. He is enterprising and public spirited; is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity.

GEORGE C. WEBSTER, of Creston, is one of the oldest employes of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. He is connected with the locomotive department, and has been in the employ of this company since coming to Creston, in 1869, at which time the railroad reached the city, and has been connected with the locomotive department during all this time—a part of the time as locomotive engineer on the road, and a part of the time in charge of this department at the round house. Mr. Webster is a native of Scotland, and was born at Renfrewshire, near Glasgow, February 28, 1820. He served an apprenticeship to the machinist's trade, and came to America in 1840. When he first came he was engaged for a time in the novelty works of Stillman, Allen & Co., in New York City, then went to Rochester, same State, where he remained nine years. During the latter part of his stay in Rochester he was in the employ of the New York Central Railroad Company. From that city he went to Detroit, Michigan, and from there to Creston. Mr. Webster was married in his native country, to Miss Jennet Cumnock, born also in Renfrewshire, Scotland. They have six children—one son and five daughters. The son, George Webster, is prominently connected with the railroad company, being traveling engineer for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy.

A. M. COLLINS, clerk of the city of Creston and clerk of the Superior Court, also engaged in insurance, has been a resident of Union County since 1877. He came to Creston and engaged in his present business in 1883. His office is in the Superior Court-room. Mr. Collins was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1857, and was reared in the State of Connecticut. His father, Morris Collins, was a native of Massachusetts, and removed to Connecticut in early life. When a young man he went to St. Louis, and engaged in the mercantile business. Later, he sold out, and for many years was engaged in the manufacture of lead pipe and sheet lead, doing an extensive business. The later years of his life were spent in Jacksonville, Illinois, but he conducted his business in St. Louis until his decease, which occurred at Jacksonville, March 19, 1873. The Collins family came from old New England stock. There were three brothers of Morris Collins, all of whom were prominent business men. Two of them were (both dead now) residents of Hartford, Connecticut, and the third lives in New York City. The mother of our subject Martha (Blatchford) Collins, died in 1862. His father married a second time, and his wife

resides in Jacksonville. The wife of A. M. Collins was formerly Miss Charlotte Young, daughter of J. R. Young, of Lincoln Township. Mr. Collins' parents had four children—two sons and two daughters. Mr. Collins is the only member of the family living in Iowa.

ELMOS T. HOLLAND was born in Monongalia County, West Virginia, August 11, 1848, a son of Eli Holland, of Henry County, Illinois. His father was a native of the State of West Virginia, who immigrated to Henry County in 1864, when he located on the farm where he has since made his home. Our subject was reared on a farm, his father being a farmer by occupation, and has made agricultural pursuits his life work. He received a good education by attending the common schools of his native county, and at Prairie Home Academy at Orion, Illinois. He was married March 8, 1877, to Miss Louisa Shively, a daughter of John P. Shively, who died in Grant Township, Union County. Mr. and Mrs. Holland have four children—Mabel N., Bertha E., Jessie L. and Pearl L. Mr. Holland came with his family to Union County, Iowa, in the spring of 1882, and settled on section 29, Grant Township, where he has a fine farm containing 240 acres. He is meeting with success in his farming and stock-raising, and is paying special attention to raising graded cattle and hogs.

SQUIRE R. DAVIS, postmaster and editor of the Creston *Commonwealth*, has resided in Creston since 1876. He was appointed postmaster by President Cleveland July 24, 1885, and took possession of the office August 10, following. He was confirmed by the Senate May 5, 1886. Mr. Davis was born near Carthage, Hancock County, Illinois, June 17, 1854. He was educated in the public schools of Carthage, and at the age of fourteen began an apprenticeship at the printer's trade, serving four years. He was engaged in the printing and publishing business many years. When first coming to Creston he published the Creston *Democrat*. In a year and a half he sold out, but repurchased it and conducted it for some time longer. He studied law in Illinois, was admitted to the bar at Keokuk, Iowa, in 1879, and practiced that profession in connection with his other business for four years, after coming to Creston. He was the Democratic-Greenback candidate for Congress for the Eighth District, in 1884, his opponent being Hon. W. P. Hepburn. He has served as justice of the peace several years. Mrs. Davis, was formerly Fannie Alice Sedberry, born in Maury County, Tennessee. They have two children—Rupert F. and Marjorie C.

JAMES HAY LEMON was born in Union County, Ohio, in 1823, where his father had gone to take up land granted to soldiers of the Indian wars. The following spring his parents went to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and in 1828 to Philadelphia. In his boyhood our subject worked at the shoemaker's trade, and later was apprenticed to the trade of a carpenter and joiner. In 1840 he enlisted in the regular army, and served five years, participating in the war in Florida, a member of Zachary Taylor's Sixth United States Infantry. He was discharged as Sergeant-Major of his regiment. In 1849 he went to California *via* Cape Horn, and in 1852 returned to Philadelphia, and the same year was married to Adelaide M. Kacer. In 1854, with his wife and two infant sons, he immigrated to Wisconsin, where he opened up three new farms, and while working at his trade built several dwellings and store blocks. In 1870 he moved to Union County, Iowa, and is now engaged in stock-raising on section 26, Platte

Township. His family consists of ten children, seven of whom have been school-teachers; three are graduates of Drake University, Des Moines.

STEPHEN L. EMERSON, one of the old and honored pioneers of Union Township, now living on section 29, Lincoln Township, was born in Licking County, Ohio, February 20, 1830, a son of Jasper P. and Eliza (McCamey) Emerson, who were natives of Wier, New Hampshire, and Virginia respectively, and are now making their home in Union County, Iowa. Our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he has made the principal vocation of his life. He received a good education, attending the academy and college at Granville, Ohio, and also spent some time at Oberlin College, and after completing his education he taught a few terms in his native State. In March, 1853, he came to Union County, Iowa, and settled on section 12, Highland Township, where he entered 160 acres. He returned to Ohio the same year. He was united in marriage October 17, 1852, to Miss Mary L. Peck, a daughter of Solomon Peck, who had a family of eighteen children. Mrs. Emerson was was left an orphan when but a child. In 1856 Mr. Emerson returned to Highland Township, this county, with his wife and two children, having spent the previous winter in Monroe County, Iowa. They resided in Highland Township until 1869, when they came to farm, where they still reside. After coming to this county Mr. Emerson taught school for six terms, mostly during winter months. He was also a preacher in the Christian church, in the early days of the county, but was obliged to return to farming in order to make a living for his family. His nearest mills in those days were on Middle River in Madison County, and on South Coon River, which took four days' time. He was first obliged to go to Missouri to get his corn to grind. Deer and other wild animals were in abundance, and often has our subject caught wild turkey in a steel trap. The Indians at that time were the principal inhabitants of the new country, and Mr. Emerson kept one Indian all one winter, and sent him to school. His Christian name was John, and Mr. Emerson gave him the surname of White. John would try to wash the dark color off his hands, and then slap them and say "Ugh, Injin yet." He is now chief of the Pottawattamie tribe. Mr. Emerson planted the first sugar cane in the county, and ground the sap out of it with a rolling-pin. The first Hungarian seeds and the first locust trees in the county were also planted by him. He was one of the organizers of Lincoln Township, and gave it the name it still bears in honor of Abraham Lincoln. In politics he was formerly a Republican, but now affiliates with the Greenback party. He has served his township as justice of the peace and assessor, and during the war was commissioned Deputy Provost-Marshal for Union County, and also came within one vote of being elected to the office of county clerk. He was president of the School Board a few years, and for the past thirteen years has served as school treasurer. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson are the parents of seven children—Ralph W., Willis G., Jennie L., Mary C., Lincoln J., Lydia P. and Stephen S. Ralph has devoted considerable time to literary pursuits, having written for several journals and newspapers. He was married to Lillian McNaut, and has three children—Daisy, Nelly and Jessie. Willis G. is a graduate of the Gem City Business College of Quincy, Illinois, in which institution he afterward taught. He also taught penmanship and bookkeeping in Creston, Iowa, for two years. He is also a man of literary merit, and is the author of a book entitled "Winning Winds" which is a very interesting and popular work. Willis G. married Clyde Parker, who is a music-teacher and landscape-painter, and they are the par-

ents of two children—Willie Z. and Fred. Jennie married Theodore Eckert, of Creston, Iowa, and has two children—Harry L. and Mary S. Mary C. married George E. Smith, of Cromwell, Union County, and now resides with his family in Colorado, having accepted the position of second teller of the bank at Loveland. They have two children—Winnie and Mamie. Lincoln lives in Washington Territory; Lydia is a successful teacher. She and Stephen S. are living with their parents. Jennie and Mary were prominent teachers before they were married; Mary teaching six terms in one school.

F. SULLIVAN, attorney at law, Afton, Iowa, was born in Nova Scotia, of Irish parentage. When he was two years old his parents moved to the State of New York, and when he was fifteen, in 1852, to Johnson County, Iowa. He began the study of law in 1858, at Iowa City, with Templin & Fairall and was admitted to the bar in 1860. In 1863 he located in Afton, and since 1872 has been associated in practice with J. W. McDill. Mr. Sullivan married Miss Elizabeth Gutheridge, daughter of D. J. Gutheridge an early settler of Union County. They have five children—James, John, Frank, Eugene and Annie. In politics Mr. Sullivan affiliates with the Democratic party.

M. SCOTT, grain dealer at Creston, is now the oldest grain-merchant, by many years, of the city, having settled here in the spring of 1871. George P. Rockwell was the first to buy grain here, commencing in the fall of 1869, and he was succeeded by Mr. Scott, in the spring of 1871. He has been constantly in the business since that time. Mr. Rockwell built the first elevator; J. T. Evans built the second one in 1871. Mr. Scott purchased the elevator of Mr. Rockwell, which he enlarged and furnished with new machinery. Mr. Scott was an early pioneer of Creston. He was reared in Oneida County, New York. His parents, John and Cyrena Scott, were natives of Massachusetts. In 1850 he removed to Mercer County, Illinois, with his father, but the latter soon after removed to Henry County, where he remained until his decease. His mother died in the State of New York. Mr. Scott has been identified with the growth of our modern city from its infancy. In 1880 he was elected mayor, and served with credit. He has done a large grain business, at one time employing forty men to buy grain. He has grain houses in Creston, Cromwell, Brooks, Nodaway and Spaulding. He has been engaged in the grain business the greater part of his life. He was married in Illinois to Caroline Cossum, a native of England. They have one daughter—Cyrena. Mr. Scott's sympathies, politically, are with the Democratic party, but he intends to vote for measures rather than men.

ADAM PETRIE, a prominent stock-raiser and farmer of Douglas Township, and occupying section 31, is a son of John and Elizabeth Petrie, of Tennessee, and was born in 1828, in East Tennessee, where he grew to the age of manhood. During the spring of 1868 he came to Union County, settling on section 11, eighty acres of which he improved. He then bought 160 acres on section 31, where he now resides. He began in life without capital, and by his own untiring efforts he has accumulated a fair competency for his declining years. When he retires from the active duties of life he can enjoy that rest which he has so well earned by a life of toil and industry. He was married in Keokuk County, Iowa, in 1856, to Catharine Golliher, who was born in Tennessee, in

1836. By this marriage there have been seven children — Loduskey, William C., John H., Bluford, Nannie, Ben and Clara. In his political views Mr. Petrie is Independent. Postoffice, Kent.

DANIEL J. SPENCER, manufacturer of brick and tile at Afton, has been engaged in his present business twenty consecutive years. He was born in Lee County, Iowa, January 14, 1842, five years before the Territory became a State. His father, Andrew Spencer, was one of the pioneers of that county, entering land from the Government. He came to Iowa from the Western Reserve of Ohio; was born in Connecticut, and taken by his parents to Ohio when three years old. He is now a resident of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. Daniel J. lived in Denmark, Lee County, until he grew to manhood. In August, 1862, he enlisted in the Twenty-fifth Iowa Infantry, and served till the close of the war. He was in Sherman's expedition against Vicksburg, also with Grant when that stronghold was captured. He was engaged in the battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, and the Atlanta campaign, his regiment being attached to the Fifteenth Corps. He was wounded at the battle of Jonesboro, in consequence of which he came home on a furlough. After he was sufficiently recovered he rejoined his regiment at Goldsboro, North Carolina, marched to Washington and took part in the grand review, and at the close of the war returned to Lee County. In the spring of 1866 he was married to Julia A. Loomis, and soon after removed to Mt. Pleasant, where his father's family also removed. He was reared on a farm until fifteen years of age, then learned the trade of bricklaying which he has followed all his life. He erected the first brick residence in Afton, which was his own dwelling. He also erected all the brick buildings in Afton except the court-house. He built the first brick house at Creston, also built several business houses in that city. He is still engaged in contracting and building in connection with brick and tile-making. He began the manufacture of tile in 1885, which has proved a great success. Mr. Spencer is one of the most active business men of Afton. Politically he was reared an Abolitionist, but has been identified with the Republican party since he became a voter. He cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer have eight children — seven sons and one daughter.

EDWIN S. KETCHUM, real-estate dealer at Afton, has been a resident of Union County since 1869. He was born in St. Joseph County, Michigan, in 1840, and lived in that county until he was fifteen years old. At this time his father went to Wisconsin and purchased a farm, intending to remove there with his family. He returned to Michigan, and while making arrangements for the removal he was kicked by a horse and killed. He left a wife and seven children, Edwin S., being the oldest child. After the father's death the family removed to Wisconsin, and settled upon the farm purchased by the father. The mother survived until 1886, and died at Madison, Wisconsin. In August, 1862, Mr. Ketchum enlisted in Company K, Thirty-third Wisconsin Infantry, and served until September 1, 1865, in active service during the entire period. He was in the engagement at Coldwater, Mississippi, siege of Vicksburg, capture of Jackson, Mississippi, with Banks in his Red River expedition, and in the expedition that scattered the army of Generals Price and Marmaduke, in Missouri; was at the battle of Nashville, and at the capture of Mobile in the spring of 1865. At the close of the war he returned to Wisconsin, coming to Union County in 1869, as previously stated.

He was engaged in farming for several years, and established his present business in 1881. He has been twice married. His first marriage was in Wisconsin, with Miss Mary E. Randall, a native of the State of New York, who died in Afton, August 11, 1882. His present wife was formerly Mrs. Mary E. Guthrie, widow of Doctor J. B. Guthrie. By his first marriage were four children—Charles E., George A., Anna Laura and Hubert W. Of the seven children in the family of Mr. Ketchum's father five are still living, four sons and one daughter. The second son, George P., enlisted in the Forty-sixth Wisconsin Infantry, and died February 22, 1865, at Madison, Wisconsin. The youngest son was murdered by cowboys in Nebraska, in December, 1878.

ROBERT COLBERT, farmer and stock-raiser, section 5, Douglas Township, has 240 acres of highly-cultivated land. He was born in Ireland, in 1842, son of John and Mary Colbert, also natives of that country; mother is deceased, but father is still living, at the age of seventy-five years. Mr. Colbert was reared on a farm; came to Canada in 1861, and to the United States in 1861. For the first two years in this country he followed the manufacture of lead, in Philadelphia; next was engaged in the nursery business, in Henry County, Illinois, three years, and in Grinnell, Iowa, three years, and finally, in 1871, he came to Union County, settling upon his present farm, which was then raw prairie. He started out in life with no capital but his personal qualifications, working by the month, at $10 a month, from sixteen to eighteen hours a day. He has put his present place under fine improvements, and established a substantial and comfortable home. He has held the office of school director, township assessor, two terms, and is a member of the Congregational church. He was married in Henry County, Illinois, December 31, 1868, to Miss Ellen, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Olrien) Moore, natives of Ireland. She was born in Canada, in 1845. Mr. and Mrs. Colbert are the parents of four children—William J., Emma W., Mary E., and Frank R. Postoffice, Cromwell.

O. E. FRENCH, principal of Creston high school, was born in Jackson, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, June 23, 1846. He began his career as a teacher in December, 1863, and with the exception of two years has been actively employed in public school work every year from that time until the present. He has taught in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Nebraska and Iowa. From 1878 to 1881 he served as county superintendent of his native county, and successfully supervised 300 schools taught by 350 teachers. He is now teaching on his third year in Creston, and his efficiency and popularity are evinced by the enviable reputation accorded to Creston high school, and by an increase of salary at each annual election. Mr. French is a fine disciplinarian, a thorough scholar, a respected and honored citizen.

T. L. BAYLES, of Afton, is a son of James Bayles, who was born in 1795. He was reared and married in Ohio, to Miss Jane Wright. They resided in Ohio until about 1856, when they removed to Henry County, Illinois, and lived there until the spring of 1867, then removed to Union County, and settled on a farm on section 14, Union Township. The mother lived but two or three years after coming to Iowa. They had four children—Mary Jane, wife of W. C. Demint, of Kansas; Cynthia Ann, wife of Levi Plummer, residing in Adams County, Ohio; J. L. and S. J., living in Cromwell,

Union County. J. L. Bayles was born in Ohio, in 1847, and came to Iowa with his parents. He lives in Afton and owns a part of the old home farm. He married Miss Annie Ingham, of Afton, and they have two children—Charles T. and Arthur L. Their second child, Ada, died in infancy.

HARVEY FARLEY, of the firm of Farley, Luster & Hardenbrook, dealers in Western lands, has been engaged in the real-estate business in Union County since 1870, and at Creston since July, 1872. At that time the only real-estate dealers in the city were J. B. Harsh and W. O. Carpenter, of the firm name of Harsh & Carpenter. Mr. Farley was born in Monroe County, Virginia, in 1832. When a child he removed with his parents to Indiana, thence to Warren County, Iowa, in 1849, where the father died the following winter. Warren County has been the home of the family since they first came to the State. In April, 1869, Mr. Farley came to the eastern part of Adams County, where he owned land, and soon after removed to Cromwell. He was married in Indiana to Ellen Weaver, of Rush County, who died in 1874. Mr. Farley has two children—a son and a daughter.

JOSEPH F. SYP came to Union County in the fall of 1855, and Afton has been his home since that time. He was born in Miami County, Ohio, June 6, 1832. He was reared at home on his father's farm. In October, 1850, the family came to Iowa, first settling in Henry County. In the fall of 1855 Joseph F. came to Afton accompanied by his brother, W. K. Syp. He made a location, then returned to Henry County, and came back the following spring and engaged in the furniture business. That same season he erected a dwelling, the first permanent residence of Afton, though several temporary houses were put up about the same time. This house is still in good condition, and is owned and occupied by John Bargee. He continued in the furniture business two years, hauling all his stock from Mt. Pleasant by team. He was the pioneer furniture-dealer of Union County. In January, 1858, Mr. Syp closed out his furniture business and engaged in contracting and building, in company with his brother, W. K. Syp. This he followed until the spring of 1862, when he enlisted in Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry. The regiment rendezvoused at Council Bluffs, Iowa, where they were sworn into the United States service. In the fall they went South, to St. Louis, thence to Columbus, Kentucky, in pursuit of Beauregard, thence to Helena, Arkansas, where he remained with his regiment, at headquarters, until the spring of 1863. During that time he was in the White River expedition. The Union forces captured Duval's Bluffs, and routed General Price's army. The regiment suffered very much from exposure to the cold and wet. At the close of this expedition they returned to Helena. They took part in the Yazoo Pass expedition, and the siege of Fort Pemberton, then returned to Helena, and took a very important part in the battle of that place, July 4, 1863. On the 11th of August following, the regiment left Helena, and took an active part in the expedition against Little Rock, commanded by General Steele, which took place September 10. In December Mr. Syp was detailed with thirty-one others to raise a colored regiment in Arkansas. About three months later the regiment was organized, and Mr. Syp was commissioned Second Lieutenant of Company G, One Hundred and Thirteenth United States Colored Infantry. In May, 1864, he was promoted to First Lieutenant, where he served until the close of the war. He was mustered out for disability April 8, 1865. Mr. Syp was a brave and efficient soldier, and

did good service in the cause of his country. During the first part of his service with the Twenty-ninth he was Commissary of the Company; afterward he was appointed Color Bearer, and carried the colors for several months; then served as regimental drill-master for the recruits that joined the regiment. He has been physically unable to do any work since he left the army. For several years he had spells of being totally blind, and is now entirely blind in his left eye, and sees but feebly with the other. He has a pleasant home in Afton, and is thankful for the blessings he still enjoys. He was married October 10, 1856, to Margaret J. Gray, a native of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. They have seven children—Alice I., Charles N., Horace G., Florence E., Ernest L., William Ward and Pearl.

JOHN ICKIS, of Afton, is one of the pioneers of Union County. He was born in Taneytown, Carroll County, Maryland, in October, 1801, his native town being that of Chief Justice Taney. In May, 1802, his parents removed to Columbiana County, Ohio, where he lived till fifty years of age. August 28, 1823, he was married to Rachel Hamilton, a native of Beaver County, Pennsylvania, born December 5, 1802. In 1852 Mr. Ickis removed with his family to Lee County, Iowa, and in the fall of 1854 to Union County, and settled on section 31, Union Township. He entered 160 acres of land, and the same year bought eighty acres on section 7. His family consisted of six children—five sons and one daughter; and one son, Jonathan, was a widower with three children. He was by trade a blacksmith, and for twenty-five years after coming to the county worked at his trade, his sons having charge of the farm. In 1880 he left the farm and its many cares, and moved to Afton, where he has a pleasant home. Mr. and Mrs. Ickis are the oldest couple in the township, having for a period of sixty-three years traveled together the journey of life. They have had a family of ten children, six of whom, five sons and one daughter, are living—Jonathan F. is the treasurer of Union County; Thomas H. lives in Jefferson County, Ohio; Alonzo F. and George O. are farmers of Highland Township; Orlando M. is at home, and their daughter, Mrs. Catherine Motherspaugh, lives in Defiance, Ohio. Two sons, Alonzo F. and George O., were soldiers in the war of the Rebellion, serving gallantly to defend their country in her hour of peril.

H. P. SAWYER, conductor on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, has held his present position since 1872. He at present has charge of trains 71 and 72, on North Branch, to Cumberland. His residence is at Creston. He began railroading with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company in 1865, as brakeman, on the Prairie du Chien division. Mr. Sawyer is a native of the Green Mountain State, having been born in Orange County, in June, 1841. In early manhood he removed with his parents, D. M. and Sally C. Sawyer, to Wisconsin. The family consisted of father, mother, two daughters and H. P. All became residents of Creston, and the parents lived in that city until their decease. Mr. Sawyer was married January 2, 1867, in Wyoming, Wisconsin, to Miss Sarah E. Joiner, daughter of Hon. L. W. Joiner, a prominent early settler of Iowa County, that State, and one year was a member of the Legislature of Wisconsin, and of the State Senate, six years. Mrs. Sawyer was born in Indiana, and is a lady of rare culture and education, having attended the State University at Madison for some time. She has been a successful teacher for many years; was principal of the high school at Mazo Manie, Wisconsin, when but twenty years of age, and was for eight years principal of the high

school at Creston, during which time the school attained high reputation for its excellence. The labors of her position finally became too great for her strength, and, by her request, she was made assistant principal, a position she now holds. Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer have two sons: Frank M., an apprentice to the carriage-making business, at Hastings, Nebraska, and Eugene L. Wilbur J. died at the age of six years.

THOMPSON A. HARDENBROOK was born in Mercer County, Illinois, in 1847, where he grew to manhood. In September, 1861, he enlisted in the Seventh Kansas Cavalry, and served three years with the Western army. After the war he returned to Illinois, and soon after came to Iowa. In 1870 he went to Kansas, where he lived until 1882, then went to Winterset, Madison County, thence to Creston. He was married at Winterset, to Annie Shepherd, a native of Pennsylvania. She removed to Illinois with her parents, and died at Winterset, February 27, 1882. Mr. Hardenbrook has three children—two sons and a daughter. The firm of Farley, Luster & Hardenbrook deal very largely in Western lands. They are men of experience, and are thoroughly responsible.

JOHN J. BAXTER was born in Cambridge, Ohio, in 1846, and came to Iowa in the winter of 1871. He and his brother, Isaac, both practical printers, purchased the *Afton News*, a paper which had been issued about four months by Moorehead Brothers. Isaac sold his interest to George P. Wilson, who, with John J., then ran the paper for a time. Wilson then sold to J. F. Bishop. The firm of Bishop & Baxter existed until 1875, when Mr. Bishop desired to support Tilden for the presidency, and Mr. Baxter not concurring, disposed of his interest to Bishop. He went to Creston, worked a short time, and then returned and assisted Ira Seeley in running the *Tribune*, a Republican paper. This was sold to W. H. Robb, who converted it into a Greenback paper, and removed it to Creston. Mr. Baxter was for a time with the *Tribune-News*, under Mr. Bishop, and then worked on Mr. Robb's *Independent*, until 1880, when the *Enterprise* was started at Afton. Of this paper he has since been the senior proprietor. For the past six years he has been the recorder of Afton. In 1875 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Claussen. Mr. and Mrs. Baxter are members of the Presbyterian church.

D. KLINGENSMITH, engaged in agricultural pursuits in Platte Township, is one of the active and enterprising citizens of Union County, always taking an interest in every enterprise which he deems for the benefit of the county or township where he makes his home. His parents, William and Mary Klingensmith, were natives of Pennsylvania, in which State he was born, the date of his birth being March 10, 1830. He was reared to the occupation of a farmer, which he has followed through life. He has always been used to hard work, having been bound out at the early age of six years, remaining with the same party till he arrived at maturity. He has been twice married, taking for his first wife Miss Hannah Allen, who was born in Pennsylvania, May 2, 1830, her parents, Lorenzo and Agnes Allen, being natives of the same State. To this union were born four children—M. R., born March 29, 1851; S. W., born April 17, 1854; N. W., born February 18, 1856, and F. A., born July 24, 1863. Mrs. Klingensmith died December 5, 1865, and Mr. Klingensmith was again married, to Miss Nancy J. Agler, by whom he has had two children—Keziah E.,

born July 22, 1867, died March 7, 1868; and Flora J., born August 4, 1870. Mr. Klingensmith began life a penniless boy, and at the time of his marriage had but $2. He is now classed among Union County's prosperous agriculturists, he having by his persevering industry and excellent business management, become the owner of 574 acres of choice land. He has a fine, substantial residence on section 34, Platte Township, surrounded with beautiful shade trees, a fine orchard, and his farm buildings are among the best in Platte Township, his large barn being 36 x 40 feet in size, with good basement. He is now devoting his entire attention to farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of Clydesdale horses. He keeps an imported horse for his own use.

B. F. WALTMAN, a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser, living on section 2, Platte Township, where he has a fine farm of 120 acres, is a native of Pennsylvania, born June 25, 1836, a son of Michael and Julia Anna (Wilson) Waltman, who were natives of the same State. B. F. grew to manhood on the home farm, and began assisting his father with the farm work when but a boy, thus early in life learning habits of industry and perseverance which have been of lasting benefit to him. He served three years in the late war, enlisting in Company D, Seventeenth Illinois Infantry—his home being in Illinois at that time. He participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh and Corinth, and several other engagements of minor importance, and at the expiration of his term of service was honorably discharged, at Chattanooga, Tennessee. The maiden name of his wife was Martha Snively, she being a daughter of Samuel and Eliza Snively, who were natives of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Waltman was born in the State of Ohio, September 23, 1849. Mr. and Mrs. Waltman are the parents of seven children—Maud, born September 2, 1867; Cora, born October 20, 1868; Victor L., born May 18, 1870; Guy H., born January 17, 1872; Mabel, born January 31, 1876; Lloyd G., born May 9, 1880, and Wayne E., March 26, 1885. Mr. Waltman began working as a farm laborer, and after he had saved sufficient money to buy a span of horses he rented a small piece of land and commenced farming for himself. He continued to farm on rented land till he came to Union County, Iowa, when he bought his present place, in Platte Township, where he has since carried on farming with good success, and has brought his land under a fine state of cultivation, and is now classed among the well-to-do farmers of Platte Township, as well as a much-respected citizen. Both Mr. and Mrs. Waltman, in their religious faith, are Presbyterians. In politics he is a Republican. He is a comrade of John A. Rawlins Post, No. 61, G. A. R., of Creston.

CHARLES H. FULLER, insurance agent and keeper of abstract of titles, at Creston, has resided in Union County since 1868. He first located on a farm in New Hope Township, section 12, and continued farming until he was elected county auditor, in 1881. He served two years succeeding F. M. Emerson, now deceased. At the expiration of his term of office he removed to Creston, and has since been engaged in his present business. Mr. Fuller is a member of the Union County Abstract Incorporation, of which he is the general manager. He was born in Delaware County, Ohio, in 1847. His father, H. C. Fuller, also a native of Delaware County, was a member of Company I, Thirty-second Ohio Infantry, and was mortally wounded at Harper's Ferry in September, 1862. He died of lockjaw the following October, at his home. Charles H. Fuller was the oldest of five children. In 1868 the mother and children came

to Iowa, settling in Union County, upon a farm of 240 acres, which the husband and father had previously entered from the Government. Mr. Fuller and his oldest brother improved this farm, and Mr. Fuller still owns eighty acres of it and forty acres adjoining. In 1880 his brother sold out, and removed to Kansas. The mother, Zelia Fuller, resides with her daughter, Mrs. Addie White, in San Joaquin County, California. The names of the children who came in 1868 are—Charles H., William H., Mrs. Addie White and Hiram C. The latter died soon after their arrival in Union County. Charles H. married Miss Lou Reasoner, a native of Illinois. They have four children—Chester A., Myette A., C. W. Harcourt and Maud.

EDGAR HUNT, section 31, Spaulding Township, postoffice, Cromwell, is engaged in agriculture and the raising of live stock. His parents were Jesper and Lavilla (Sherman) Hunt, natives of Chautauqua County, New York, in which county he was born, in 1847, and grew to manhood on his father's farm, enjoying the benefit of a fair education. In 1870 he came West, with no means but his capital of energy and wit, trained by economical skill, which he has practiced through life, resulting in making him a well-to-do and worthy citizen. For five years he worked by the month, at the rate of $30 a month; during one year of that time he was overseer of the county farm. His present farm comprises 240 acres of good land, well improved, and his live stock includes fine cattle, hogs and horses, among the latter being several fine brood mares and one stallion. In Pennsylvania, in 1868, Mr. Hunt was married to Miss Harriet, daughter of David and Anna Mariah (Reed) Wright. She was born in that State, in 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have had three children, two of whom are living—Lilla and Jesper. Mr. Hunt has been elected to the offices of township trustee, school director and other local offices. He and his estimable wife were among the pioneers of Spaulding Township, and it is needless to say that his life has been a successful one, for the broad acres which he owns attest the industry and wise management of their proprietor; and his faithful wife has shared with him the vicissitudes of life, intermingled with sunshine and storms.

JOSEPH YEAGER, merchant, Afton, Iowa, was born in Clarke County, Ohio, in 1838. In 1846 his parents moved to Iowa, and settled in Henry County, where the father bought a new farm, and there our subject was reared and educated. In August, 1861, he enlisted in the defense of the Union, and was assigned to Company G, Eleventh Iowa Infantry, and served three years. He participated in the battle of Shiloh, siege of Corinth, battle at Iuka, second battle at Corinth, siege of Vicksburg, and after the surrender of Vicksburg was stationed there nine months on garrison duty. He was in the siege of Atlanta, and the battles preceding it, and on July 22, 1864, was wounded in the left shoulder by a fragment of shell. After the war he returned home, and for two and a half years was employed in the capacity of clerk, in Mt. Pleasant. In 1868 he located in Afton, where he has since lived. He married Louisa Rose, a daughter of J. Rose, of Salem, Iowa. They have three children—Orville, Jacob B. and Rila.

STEPHEN H. SHAW was born in Saratoga County, New York, October 23, 1826, and died at his home, in Lincoln Township, Union County, October 26, 1882. He grew to manhood in his native State, and there received the benefit of a common-school

education. He went to Kansas in the year 1857, and subsequently removed to Adams County, Iowa, and while in that county was Captain of the Home Guards, during the war of the Rebellion. He was married, February 9, 1865, to Miss Lumira Moore, a daughter of Samuel Moore. Her father came to Iowa from Morgan County, Illinois, about 1852, when he located in Montgomery County. He is now a resident of Fremont County, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw have had eight children born to them, seven of whom still survive—Verna, Truman, Marion, Stella and Sterling (twins), Effer and Gertrian. Mr. Shaw remained in Adams County until the spring of 1876, when he located in Harrison County, Missouri, and in the fall of 1877 came to Union County, when he settled on the farm on section 16, which is still occupied by his family, and there he was engaged in farming till his death. He had eighty-three acres of choice land. He was a quiet, industrious citizen, and was highly respected by all who knew him.

JOHN S. VAN DOREN, one of the enterprising business men of Cromwell, was born in Warren County, New Jersey, June 2, 1845, a son of Aaron J. Van Doren, of Fredon, Sussex County, New Jersey, who was born in Somerset County, of the same State. John S. Van Doren, our subject, was reared to manhood on a farm, and was educated in the common schools of New York City. He came West in 1864, and located in Muscatine County, Iowa, where he was employed on the farm of W. H. Roy, for one year, then followed farming on his own account in that county for several years. He was united in marriage, December 11, 1866, to Miss Phœbe M. Kanoff, a daughter of William Kanoff, who is now deceased. They are the parents of three children, two daughters and one son—Anna M., Alice A. and Aaron J. Mr. Van Doren came to Union County with his family in May, 1875, when he settled in Spaulding Township, remaining there till 1884. In October of that year he came to Cromwell, where he still makes his home, and since coming here he has been successfully engaged in buying grain. Both Mr. and Mrs. Van Doren are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Van Doren is a member of the Odd Fellows order.

DANIEL SHANNON, section 4, Platte Township, was born in the State of New Jersey, January 19, 1844, a son of A. and Mary (Barber) Shannon, natives of New Jersey. Our subject was brought up to the avocation of a farmer, which he has always followed, with the exception of one year while in the service of his country. He enlisted in Company G, Thirty-first New Jersey Infantry, being mustered in at Flemington, New Jersey, September 3, 1862, and took part in the battles of Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg. May 31, 1863, he was married to Miss Sarah E. Raupe, who was born in Warren County, New Jersey, March 9, 1848, a daughter of George and Melinda (Hay) Raupe, who were also natives of New Jersey. To Mr. and Mrs. Shannon have been born four children—George A., born November 30, 1869; Olive B., born February 20, 1876; Clifton B., September 3, 1877, and Zettie D., born January 24, 1880. Besides their own family they have taken two children to bring up—Hugh M. Craig, born May 17, 1883, and Mattie A. Craig, born October 17, 1884. Mr. Shannon has met with success in his farming pursuits since coming to Platte Township, and has now his 120-acre farm on section 4, and eighty acres on section 2 under good improvement. He is one of the public-spirited citizens, and during his residence in the township has held the office of school director, and has also served as road supervi-

sor and assessor. Both Mr. and Mrs. Shannon are members of the Presbyterian church, and respected members of society. In politics Mr. Shannon votes the Republican ticket.

W. FOGG, railroad ticket agent at Creston, was born in Maine, in 1855, and is a son of S. L. and Mary W. (Dow) Fogg, natives of the same State. He was fourteen years of age when he, in company with his parents, immigrated to the West, in 1869, settling in Douglas Township, Union County. His mother is dead, and his father is living in Kansas City. Mr. Fogg was brakeman on the railroad two years and a half, when by an accident on the train he lost an arm. He was appointed ticket agent in 1874, and has since served in that relation with perfect satisfaction to his employers and the many passengers whom he has an opportunity to accommodate. Socially he is a gentleman, and well qualified to fill the position he has so long and so honorably maintained. He was married in 1878, in Creston, to Mary J. Allen, who was born in La Porte, Indiana, in 1855, and they have one child—Allen S. Mr. Fogg owns four dwellings and lots, nd one store-house and lot on Pine Street, Creston. In his political sentiments he sympathizes with Republicanism.

M. PATCH, postoffice, Kent, engaged in farming and stock-raising in Platte Township, is a native of New Hampshire, born September 17, 1833, a son of Dennis and Susan (Drew) Patch, who were born in the State of Maine. They subsequently removed to the State of Illinois, where they lived till their death. Our subject was reared to the avocation of a farmer, which he has followed through life. He was united in marriage to Miss Jane Rodenbaugh, a daughter of George and Elizabeth Rodenbaugh, who were natives of New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Patch are the parents of six children—Nettie, born November 12, 1861; Lorni O., born October 8, 1866; Emma C., born July 1, 1870; Cora, born March 22, 1872; Alice, born November 2, 1875, and Mattie, born February 27, 1878. Mr. Patch is identified with the successful agriculturists of Platte Township, where he owns a good farm, eighty acres being located on section 29, and eight acres on section 28. He has a substantial and comfortable farm house, good barn and other farm buildings in good condition, and his farm shows the care and thrift of the owner.

B. DEVOE has resided in Creston since 1878. He bought property in that vicinity in 1869. He purchased a half-section in Douglas Township and a half-section in Spaulding Township. In 1874 he laid out the first addition to Creston, and two years later laid out the second addition. At this time he was a resident of Madison, Wisconsin. He built a large number of houses on these additions, and now resides on the second one. He still has several lots for sale. Upon his land in Douglas Township the reservoir of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad is located, Mr. Devoe having given the company a quit claim deed for that purpose. This is on section 11. Mr. Devoe has done a great deal toward building up the city of Creston. He has erected about twenty dwellings, and in 1881 he built a fine brick block on the corner of Montgomery and Maple streets, the number of the block being 296. The dimensions are forty-two feet on Maple street, and 120 on Montgomery street. Mr. Devoe was born in Attica, Genesee County, New York, in 1819. He was reared in Western New York, and married for his first wife Miss Lucretia E. Doty. Soon after his

marriage he removed to Jefferson County, Wisconsin, then to what was then the town of Rome, now Pleasant Spring, Dane County. He was one of the pioneers of Wisconsin. Previous to coming to Iowa his life was passed on a farm. His wife died in Jefferson County, in 1848. His second wife was Mary Kirby, a native of Connecticut. By his first marriage he has one daughter and four sons, and a daughter by the second marriage. Two sons and two daughters now reside in Dane County, Wisconsin, and two sons in Union County, Iowa. The eldest son, William, is a farmer in Douglas Township, and the youngest, George W., is in the insurance business at Creston, and represents most of the leading companies of this country; also a London, England, company, and a Toronto company.

WILLIAM F. CRAIG resides on the north half of the northeast quarter of section 24, Union Township, where he settled in the fall of 1873. He has eighty acres here and forty acres on section 25, township 72, range 29. He has been a resident of Union County since October, 1866. He first settled on the north half of the southeast quarter of section 24, where he resided about five years. Disposing of this land he purchased his present homestead of Josephine Linscott, of Washington, Iowa. He has made all the improvements that are on his place, it being wild land when he bought it. Mr. Craig was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, November 11, 1835, and grew to manhood in his native State. He received superior educational advantages, having passed to the senior year in Muskingum College. He did not graduate, owing to the breaking out of the civil war, and the enlistment of the senior class of the college, whose patriotism exceeded their desire for college honors. Mr. Craig's attendance at college was not continuous, as he had to pay his own way, which he did by teaching and engaging in other occupations. In 1860, when Abraham Lincoln was first a candidate for the presidency, Mr. Craig was in Illinois teaching school. At this time he had an opportunity to engage in a newspaper enterprise with Ira A. Batterton, who was publishing the Lexington *Globe*, and warmly supporting the Republican nominee for the presidency. Early in 1861 he returned to Ohio for the purpose of resuming his studies at college, leaving the paper in charge of his partner. But the excitement attending the beginning of the war, and the first call for volunteers, precluded the idea of re-entering school, and in July, 1861, he enlisted; but the State's quota being full he was not accepted. It being generally thought that the war would soon end, and having failed to enter the service, he, with his brother, John Craig, went to Indiana and engaged in farming. It soon became apparent that the war was not to end without a desperate struggle, and further calls for men being made, he and his brother decided to enter the service. The brother enlisted in the Seventy-fifth Regiment, Indiana Infantry, and our subject, after settling up the business of the firm, enlisted in the Ninth Indiana Infantry, and was soon placed on detached duty, where he remained during the entire term of his enlistment, serving as clerk at the headquarters of General H. B. Carrington, at Indianapolis, Indiana, and later with General Alvin P. Hovey. He was well fitted for his position by his superior educational advantages, and he discharged the duties assigned him with satisfaction. Mrs. Craig was formerly Mary E. Passmore, a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, to whom he was married October 31, 1861. She died in 1875, leaving five children—John C. M.; Maggie, a teacher, wife of E. S. Moffitt; Emma C., wife of J. W. Moffitt; George W. and Willie F. May 16, 1881, Mr. Craig was married to Mrs. Ellie Clough, eldest daughter of Robert J. Biggs, of Afton. They have one son—Guy C. Since

coming to Iowa, in 1866, Mr. Craig has been engaged both in farming and teaching. He has twice been a candidate for the county superintendency of schools, and the second time, in 1885, was defeated by only eighteen votes. He has been secretary of the School Board ten years, and township clerk for three years. He is a member of Henry Keating Post, No. 211, G. A. R., of Afton, and was identified with the Iowa National Guard for seven years. His first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln, with whom he was personally acquainted; followed his fortunes through the vicissitude of the civil war, and finally looked upon his remains after he had been stricken down by the hand of his assassin. At the meridian of life Mr. Craig finds himself comfortably situated amid the works his own hand has builded; his patriotism as warm as it was way back in the sixties; an ardent admirer of his adopted State, believing that the near future will see her develop into one of the most honored of the sisterhood, and is willing to accept the situation and try to grow old gracefully.

NIXON WATERMAN, editor and active partner in the proprietorship of the paper known as *Every Sunday Morning*, published at Creston, is a son of Lyman and Elizabeth (Wakefield) Waterman, natives of New York and Pennsylvania respectively. They were married in the Keystone State. Mr. Waterman has been a farmer in Pennsylvania, Illinois and Iowa, to which latter State, Union County, he came in 1869. He is now retired from active employment, and resides in Creston. Of eleven children eight grew to maturity, and five are now living. Nixon, the youngest of these, was born November 12, 1859, in Kendall County, Illinois, and remained within the family circle until 1881, receiving his education in the public schools of Creston, and studying also for one year in the college at Valparaiso, Indiana. Returning to Creston he was employed by S. A. Brewster, from September, 1881, to June, 1885, when he became interested in *Every Sunday Morning*. He is making a success of this paper, and has only friends in Creston. He was married March 14, 1883, to Miss Nellie Haskin, of the "Twin Cities," Wisconsin.

GEORGE R. JOHNSON, farmer, stock-raiser and dealer, and dairyman, resides on West Adams street, Creston. He is a son of S. B. and Lucinda (White) Johnson, natives of New York. They were the parents of nine children, of whom George R. is the seventh child and sixth son. He was born in Chenango County, New York, in 1847. In 1862 he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fourteenth New York Volunteer Infantry, and served two years and ten months, participating in all the battles with Banks and Sheridan; was taken prisoner by Mosby while on a foraging expedition near Winchester, Virginia, was in the battles of Cedar Creek, Winchester, Red River, Port Hudson, Pleasant Hill, etc., and was mustered out at Elmira, New York, at the close of the war. Then, after a three-years' residence as a confectioner at Norwich, New York, he came to Lucas County, Iowa, and settled on eighty acres of wild land, where he was a resident eleven years. Has resided in Union County since 1886. He entered the arena of life with no resources but his own, and has, through diligence and judicious use and improvement of opportunities, achieved an honorable and merited success. He has always displayed a prominent interest in all worthy public enterprises. He owns a fine farm of 160 acres on section 3, Douglas Township, where he has a large, handsome house, with all the necessary out-buildings to correspond. He also owns eighty acres of good land on section 10, same township, on which there is a good dwelling

house, and one of the finest groves in the county; also several fine dwellings in Creston, and his residence there is a splendid, large structure, elegantly furnished. He also has seventy fine dairy cows. Mr. Johnson was married in 1868, to Augusta Clark, of New York, who was born in 1847, in that State, and they have two children—Carrie A. and Nellie A. As a family, they are noted for their industry, perseverance and uprightness, and are worthy of the respect in which they are held by the community. Mrs. Johnson is a lady of more than ordinary intellectual ability; is hospitable, kind and considerate, and for visitors makes her home pleasant and attractive. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

THOMAS GRANTHAM, physician and druggist, 155 North Pine street, Creston, is of English descent, inheriting the true English blood, his father, John Grantham, being an English gentleman of note, and of the royal family of England, as was also his mother, Anna (Mercer) Hunt, who was the daughter of a prominent English gentleman. His great-grandfather, Thomas Bell Hunt, was a prominent physician, and famed for being the discoverer of a specific for diseased eyes. His father established the first veterinary college in America, and was for a number of years principal of the same, assisted by Rembler Paul. His grandfather was Mayor of York, England, which office is next the highest, that of the Lord Mayor of London being the highest. Dr. Grantham, the subject of this sketch, was born in 1836, in Upper Canada, where he obtained a good education. After completing his studies he entered a drug-store as clerk, in which capacity he acted until he was twenty years of age, in the meantime making a trip to the West, to see the country. He also assisted his father in his drug-store at Brantford, Canada. At the age of twenty he went to Buffalo, where he engaged in the drug trade three years, and in the same business also for a short time at Boston, Massachusetts. But, having once seen the grand and beautiful West, and found Iowa to be his choice, he became anxious to change his residence to this new and rising State. Accordingly he soon located in Creston and established himself in his chosen calling, in which he has been successful. His was the first drug and apothecary store established in this place. In his profession as a physician he also commands an extensive and lucrative practice, employing a clerk in his store, where he has over $5,000 worth of stock, his sales amounting annually to $10,000. In 1864, in Boston, Massachusetts, Dr. Grantham was united in marriage with Miss Ella Conny, daughter of William and Mary (Wilson) Conny, natives of Massachusetts; she was born in 1846. The doctor has three children—Florence, Myrtle and Bertie. Although a poor man when he came to Creston, the doctor now owns two fine dwelling houses and lots, besides his stock of drugs and sundries, all of which he has earned by his own industry. He is an enterprising citizen, and always stands ready to advance any project that he thinks will benefit the community; is a gentleman of fine social character and good principles, sterling integrity, and highly merits the esteem in which he is held. He has no taste for political life, and hence has never given any time to the strategy of politics. He has, however, labored faithfully to assist in the development of his adopted State and to enlarge the city in which he lives; is firm in whatever he deems to be right, diligent in the callings and labors of life, and has no skill in hoarding money, as he looks upon that article as valuable only as it contributes to the comforts of the body and improvement of the mind. It is due to Dr. Grantham to state that, while he does not claim to be a graduate of any medical college, he did attend Knox Medical Col-

Thos. Graham

lege two years, and has ever been a close student of the human system, and is certainly well posted on all medical subjects. Having also attended medical lectures of different schools, he is liberal enough to "seize upon truth where'er 'tis found." He is thus well qualified for the prominent and responsible position he now holds. His widely-extended and highly-respected patronage supersedes the necessity of entering further into particulars upon this head, except to note one remarkable feature of his practice, so far as we can learn, and that is, he has never been known to make a mistake in compounding and administering medicines. "Be sure you are right before you go ahead," is known to be pre-eminently the Englishman's motto. As one of Union County's prominent and successful physicians, the publishers of this work enjoy the pleasure of presenting, in connection with the above biographical sketch, the portrait of Dr. Granthan, which will be recognized and appreciated by his many friends.

EDWARD DERR, of the firm Derr & Smith, clothiers, Creston, Iowa, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1848, a son of Philip and Catherine Derr. He lived in his native State until sixteen years of age. In 1864 he came to Iowa, and lived in Cedar County, until 1873, when he came to Union County, and located in Creston, where he has since lived. When eighteen years of age he began clerking in a mercantile house, and has since given his attention to that branch of business. He has been industrious and economical, and by good management and honorable dealing has acquired considerable property. The firm of Derr & Smith keep a full line of clothing and furnishing goods, and have by their accommodating and genial manner and reasonable prices built up a good trade. In addition to his mercantile business Mr. Derr is associated with W. A. Page, in the manufacture of soap, their factory being on the corner of New York Avenue and Union Street. He is an enterprising man, and is one of the prominent and influential citizens of Creston. He was married in Cedar County, Iowa, in 1868, to Sadie Spohn, a native of Ohio, born in 1846. They have one child—Edna. Mr. Derr is a member of the Odd Fellows order. In politics he is a Democrat.

AMBROSE C. HAGER, superintendent of the county poor farm, section 12, Highland Township, was born in Steuben County, New York, March 31, 1832. His father, Peter V. G. Hager, was a native of Tompkins County, New York. His great-grandfather Hager was one of four brothers, who came from Germany before the Revolution, and founded Hagerstown, Maryland, where the grandfather of our subject, John Hager, was born. He went to Tompkins County, New York, when twenty-one years old, making that county his home the rest of his life. In the fall of 1833 the parents of our subject moved to Richland County, Ohio, where the father died, in 1840. When he was eleven years old he began to work for his own maintenance, and when seventeen years of age began to work at the carpenter's trade, at which he served an apprenticeship of three years. He afterward worked at his trade six years, when on account of failing health he was obliged to seek other pursuits, and accordingly, took charge of the home farm and cared for his mother and stepfather until the death of the former, four years later, in 1859. After the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion he offered his services in the defense of the Union twice, but was rejected on account of physical disability, and afterward gave $150 to assist his township to send out its quota o soldiers. He was a staunch Union man, and although unable to go to the front, was always

on the side of his country when necessary to make his sentiments known. He cast his first presidential vote for Fremont, in 1856, and has since been a strong Republican. In March, 1875, Mr. Hager went to Chautauqua County, Kansas, and the following September came to Iowa, and located in Union County, where he has since lived. He lived in Lincoln Township until March, 1886, when he was appointed to his present position. He owns a good farm of eighty acres on section 15, Lincoln Township, which is well improved. He was married in November, 1859, to Lucelia E. Magner, of Crawford County, Ohio, daughter of Edward Magner.

CAPTAIN J. N. GADD, of Afton, is the manager at this place of the lumber interests of E. D. Rand & Co., of Burlington. This yard was established by Mr. George W. Beymer, in 1868, and Mr. Beymer was succeeded by the present firm. Captain Gadd was born in Perry County, Ohio, in 1842. When he was four years of age his father, David Gadd, died. His parents had twelve children, of whom he is the youngest except one. His father was married twice; four of his children, three daughters and one son, being the children of his second wife. Soon after his father's death the family removed to Morrow County, and in the fall of 1853 came to Scott County, Iowa; thence, in 1854, to Wapello County. An elder son, E. Gadd, settled in Davenport, in 1850. When sixteen years of age, our subject engaged in a furniture factory at Davenport, to learn the turning business, where he remained until 1861; then went to Bloomfield, Davis County, where a brother, Rev. William Gadd, was residing. In July of that year he enlisted in an independent body of cavalry, which afterward became a part of the Third Iowa Cavalry. H. H. Trimble was Lieutenant-Colonel of this regiment. Mr. Gadd served in Missouri about one year. He then returned, and engaged as traveling salesman for a cigar and tobacco firm, of Ottumwa, and was connected with this firm when he came to Afton, in 1867. For a time he discontinued traveling, and went into the osage business, but finally returned to the road, traveling altogether sixteen years. He has had charge of the lumber yard since 1883. In October, 1869, he was married, at Afton, to Cyrena L. Cherry, a native of Perry County, Ohio, daughter of Judge I. N. Cherry, of Afton. Judge Cherry settled in Union County when a young man. His family consisted of seven children, four daughters and three sons, Cyrena being the youngest. All are living except one, Dr. Cherry, who died in Winterset several years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Gadd have had three children, only one of whom, Charles T., is living. He was born October 12, 1870. Their only daughter, Mary Cherry, died August 29, 1885, aged seven years. Harry E. died in 1878. Captain Gadd's paternal ancestors were Scotch. His mother, Elizabeth Gadd, was of English descent. She died at Davenport, in 1865. David Gadd and wife had a large family. Six sons and five daughters are now living. Several of the sons are well known professionally. Samuel lives in Hyde County, Dakota; Dr. Joseph Gadd resides in Buffalo, Scott County, a prominent physician of that place; Rev. William Gadd is a minister of the Christian church, now in Attica, Kansas; Enoch S. resides at Omaha, Nebraska; Dr. Benjamin T. Gadd is a member of the medical faculty at Des Moines. Upon the first organization of the militia of this State, Captain Gadd raised a company at Afton, of which he had command eight years, and when Governor Sherman was elected Governor of Iowa, Captain Gadd was made a member of his staff, and served in the capacity of Lieutenant-Colonel of Staff for four years. He is one of the wide-awake, public-spirited citizens, and always foremost in whatever tends to promote the best interests

of the public. He has a beautiful home at Afton, and owns a farm on section 13, in Union Township. Captain Gadd has always been an "Iowa man"; in politics a Republican, and a lively one at that. His faith in the future of Iowa, years ago, was publicly known, for he believed the State was soon to become the leading State in the West.

CHARLES T. WELLS, American Express agent at Creston, was born in Canton, Ohio, in the year 1856. His father was Thomas Wells, a native of Pennsylvania, of Scotch parentage, and a contractor by occupation; and his mother, whose maiden name was Mary M. Gregg, was born in Pennsylvania, of German ancestry. Mr. Wells was appointed express agent at Fairfield, Iowa, when but eighteen years of age, and served five years, and then for four and a half years he was express messenger on the railroad, running from Burlington to Omaha, Nebraska. He came to Creston in 1883, where he has faithfully served in his calling, and earned a good reputation, bidding fair to become a prominent citizen. He is a member of the orders of Free Masons, Odd Fellows, and Legion of Honor. He was married in 1882, in Chicago, Illinois, to Miss Minnie Mathews, daughter of Amelia Mathews. She was born in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1862, and brought up there.

B. F. SMITH, dealer in harness, saddles, etc., on Pine street, Creston, was born in Butler County, Ohio, in 1834, the son of Charles and Matilda Smith, natives of Pennsylvania. When he was fifteen years of age he went to Franklin County, Indiana, and was a resident there until 1866, when he came to Ottumwa, Wapello County, Iowa, where he was engaged for ten years in the harness business, which he had learned in Indiana; he also followed farming to some extent, which vocation he had learned prior to the age of fifteen, in Ohio. At present he carries about $2,500 worth of stock, while his sales amount annually to about $7,000; he keeps two hands in his employ. He also owns a house and lot. In 1864 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Indiana Infantry, and served four months, being mustered out in Indianapolis. He was first married in Bookville, Indiana, in 1854, to Frances Carmichael, who was born in that State, in 1836, and died in 1869. They had four children, only one of whom is now living, Lenore, the wife of E. Austin. The deceased were Eddy, Harry A., and one unnamed infant. In 1879, in Wapello, Iowa, Mr. Smith married Maria Blackburn, widow of the late A. Pierce. By this marriage there are three children—Everett, Ernest and Warren.

JOHN L. WILSON, a prominent citizen and a prosperous farmer of Lincoln Township, residing on section 4, was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, September 12, 1841, a son of Thomas V. Wilson, who was a native of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. In 1849, the parents removed with their family to Springfield, Illinois, where the father built the first steam flour-mill in the place, he being a miller by trade. The father was Captain of Company L, Tenth Illinois Cavalry, during the late war, and was killed by bushwhackers while in Missouri. John L. Wilson, the subject of this sketch, learned the miller's trade from his father, and followed it for several years. He was also a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, enlisting in Company A, Twelfth Illinois Infantry, and with his regiment took part in the battles of Belmont, Fort Donelson, Vicksburg, Pittsburgh Landing, Corinth, Iuka, and Black River Bridge. After his discharge he re-enlisted in Company C, Sec-

ond Colored Cavalry, when he was engaged most of the time on the frontier, fighting the Indians. While in the service he was wounded five times, one ball passing through his body. He now draws a pension. July 16, 1868, he was married to Margaret A. Cartwright, who is a distant relative of the renowned Peter Cartwright. Of the twelve children born to this union, ten still survive —Mary E., Laura N., Thomas V., Sarah F., Harriet J., Martha B., Alice Catharine, Zenida L., Grover C., and Edith M. Mr. Wilson came to Union County, Iowa, with his family in 1876, and has since followed farming and stock-raising on the farm where he now lives. He has met with success in his agricultural pursuits, his home farm containing 200 acres of choice land, well improved. He held the office of justice of the peace in Champaign County, Illinois, for six years and a half, and has held the same office since coming to Union County, and now serving as township trustee. He has been president of the School Board for several years, and is also at this time president of the Union County Farmers' Alliance.

J. V. BARR, dealer in groceries, provisions, flour, feed, etc., No. 309 Montgomery Street, Creston, Iowa, is a native of Greene County, Ohio, born in 1839, a son of John W. and Phœbe (Snodgrass) Barr, the father a native of Ohio, and the mother of Virginia. Our subject was reared on a farm in Allen County, Ohio, where his parents moved in his childhood. He remained at home until manhood, assisting his father on the farm until after the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion. In 1864 he enlisted, and was assigned as a recruit to Company G, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Ohio Infantry, and served four months. After his return home he again engaged in farming, and followed that vocation until 1881, when he came to Iowa, and located in Creston, and embarked in his present business, and has built up a good trade. Mr. Barr was married in Allen County, Ohio, in 1869, to Eliza A. Shultz, a native of Greene County, Ohio, born in 1842. To them have been born four children—Gordie, Charles D., Eddie and Ada B. In politics Mr. Barr is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Christian church.

FRANK HUDSON, farmer and stock-raiser, section 16, Sand Creek Township, is a native of Ohio, born July 5, 1842, his parents, Daniel and Mary (Mayhew) Hudson, being natives of the same State. Our subject was reared and educated in the common schools of his native State and Illinois, his parents having moved to Stark County, Illinois, in 1853. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and wrote himself private for country and liberty's sake, and went out from home to suffer and die, if need be, in camp or field, that the nation might live. His regiment was assigned to the First Brigade, Third Division, Seventeenth Corps, Army of the Tennessee, and the history of that organization, of which the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth bore an honorable part, under such commanders as Grant, Sherman, McPherson and Logan, needs no further comment. After the close of the war he returned to his father's home in Illinois, where he remained until 1868, when he came to Iowa, and located in Union County, where he was married to Miss Irene Oliver, daughter of W. S. and Minerva Oliver, natives of Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Hudson have been born five children—Mary M., born September 17, 1870; Homer E., born January 12, 1873, died May 27, 1875; Maggie B., born November 20, 1875; Clark O., born January 2, 1877, and Herbert G., born December 25, 1879, died

December 8, 1885. Since coming to Union County Mr. Hudson has been successful in his farming operations, and is numbered among the best farmers in his township, where he has 440 acres of valuable land. He has been a member of the Board of County Supervisors for three years, and has held other offices of honor in his township, and is one of the active and public-spirited citizens. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics he is a Greenbacker. He is a member of no church, but his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

B. F. HEINLY, of the firm of Holcomb, Heinly & Brother, wholesale grocers, at Creston, was born in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, in 1851. In 1855 his father, Joseph Heinly, removed with his family to Muscatine County, Iowa, where B. F. was reared, principally, on a farm. He was engaged in a store two years previous to coming to Creston. He has been in this city since 1874. His first business venture was in the retail grocery trade in the firm name of Mackemer & Heinly. This partnership continued about six years. In the meantime a younger brother, T. A. Heinly, had became a member of the firm, and is still connected with it in the firm of Holcomb, Heinly & Brother, and also of the firm of Heinly Brothers, who have a fine retail grocery store. The grocery house of Holcomb, Heinly & Brother was established in 1881 by Wallace, Heinly & Brother. This was the first wholesale house in Creston, and the expectation of its founders has been fully realized. It is in competition with Burlington, St. Joseph, Ottumwa and Chicago. They employ two salesmen, one of whom is on the road and the other attends to the city trade. To Mr. B. F. Heinly is due in a great measure the success to which the house has attained. He possesses excellent business qualifications and has been connected with the enterprise from the beginning. His wife was formerly Miss Isabel Sweet, a native of Muscatine County, Iowa. They have two children—Earl Casper and Webster G., both of whom were born in Creston.

JOHN McCAFFERY, one of the prominent citizens of Creston, was a native of County Cavan, Ireland, and came to America with his parents while yet an infant. The family settled in Albany, New York. When he was eight years old they removed to Chicago, where a greater part of his life has been passed. He learned the printer's trade in the office of *The Young America*, a tri-weekly newspaper that was afterward merged into the Chicago *Times*. He continued on the *Times* as foreman in the press department for a period of fourteen years. This included the history of that noted paper to the time that Wilbur F. Storey became its proprietor, and also the first nine months of that eminent journalist's connection with the paper. A strike on the part of the typographical force then occurred which resulted in Mr. McCaffery's severing his connection with the *Times*. He then engaged with the *Inter-Ocean* as foreman of the press department, and filled that position two years. He next embarked in the grocery trade in Chicago, and was burned out in the great fire of 1871. He, with thousands of others, sustained a severe loss in that conflagration. His property was insured for $25,000, but he realized nothing from his insurance policies. He immediately rebuilt and resumed business until 1877, when failing health compelled him to change locality. Having large land interests in Union County, he resolved to make Creston his home and devote his attention to the improvement of his land, and in obtaining the rest which his long and close application to business demanded. Politically Mr. McCaffery is a Democrat. He was prominently connected

with Chicago politics for many years. He served as alderman four years during his business career, and after his retirement from business he served another year. In 1874 he was elected member of the county board of commissioners, serving three years. From the time he came to Creston until 1885 he was chief of the fire department in this city, and to his management is due much of the reputation that this department has attained. Mr. McCaffery was married in Chicago to Miss Alice Dixon, who died in Creston in 1883. His present wife was Maria Brownrig. He had five children, two sons and three daughters, by his first marriage. He owns 550 acres of land in Spaulding Township. He has a beautiful home in Creston, indicative of taste and comfort. His library of standard books shows his taste for reading, and his desire that his family shall not lack the opportunity for obtaining knowledge. Besides the property mentioned he owns other lands and city property.

CHARLES H. GRINNELL, one of the pioneers of Union County, engaged as sexton, Graceland Cemetery, section 18, Highland Township, was born in Providence, Rhode Island, November 14, 1837, a son of William and Frances (Salsbury) Grinnell, who were natives of the same place, the father being now deceased. The mother still makes her home in Providence. Our subject was taken by his parents to New York State, where he lived on a farm with them till fourteen years of age, and during this time learned the tailor's trade. He came to Iowa City, Iowa, in 1851, where he clerked in a feed store for five years. In 1856 he began driving a stage for the Great Western Stage Company, between Iowa City and the Missouri River, and also drove stages on other routes for the same company, being in their employ till 1860. He returned to Oneida County, New York, in the fall of 1860, and the following year enlisted at Clinton, that county, in Company E, One Hundred and First New York Infantry, in which he served eighteen months, when he was discharged on account of chronic dysentery. He re-enlisted in December, 1863, in Company M, Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery, and was again discharged, May 19, 1865, having received six gun-shot wounds. He participated in a number of engagements, including the battles of Chickahominy Swamp, Seven Pines, was on the seven days' retreat from Fair Oaks to Harrison's Landing, second battle of Bull Run, battle of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court-House and Cold Harbor. Three times he with others was left on picket duty while the main army moved to the rear of the enemy, and each time they were surrounded by the enemy, through whose ranks they had to cut their way. At the battle of the Wilderness Mr. Grinnell received a wound in each arm, also slightly wounded in the right temple. He was shot in the left side at the battle of Cold Harbor, and still carries the ball in his body. In front of Petersburg his left shoulder was badly torn by an explosive ball, making three holes, and at the same place he was shot through the right hand, the ball passing between the first and second knuckles, permanently disabling his hand. After the war he went to Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, where he attended the high school for two years. September 7, 1867, he was married to Miss Emma J. Miller, a daughter of William Miller, deceased. Of the eight children born to them, six are living—Gennetta, Charles A., Mary, Theoda, Jennie May and Lillie Bell. The two oldest are dead. Nora sleeps in Lewisburg Cemetery; William Henry sleeps in Audubon County, Iowa, awaiting the coming of Christ to gather us all together; Nora died when three days old, and William died at the age of four and a half years. Mr. Grinnell returned to Iowa, and located in Audubon

County. In 1874 he removed to Taylor County, and in 1877 came to Union County, where he has since made his home. Mr. Grinnell has been sexton of the Creston cemetery most of the time since coming to this county. Both he and his wife, in their religious faith, are Baptists.

LYMAN WATERMAN, Sr., of Creston, came to Union County, August 6, 1869, and on the ninth day of the same month bought a farm of 200 acres on section 26, of Douglas Township, 100 acres of which was broken and a house built thereon, and other slight improvements made. There were but few houses in the vicinity at the time when he moved his family to the county, the nearest one east being four miles distant. Cromwell was the temporary terminus of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, which was rapidly building to the Missouri River. The name of Creston had not been heard of at that time. Some years later Mr. Waterman purchased 200 acres adjoining, in the same section, which he afterward occupied as a home, upon selling the former homestead at $40 per acre. He moved to Creston several years ago, where he has since resided, surrounded by his family, consisting of wife and three married sons and two married daughters, all of whom have comfortable homes. Mr. Waterman was born April 20, 1817, in Eaton Township, Madison County, New York, in which State he resided until nineteen years of age, when he removed with his parents to Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Here on May 2, 1839, he married Mary Elizabeth Wakefield, and three years later started by way of canal to Pittsburg, and by steamboats on the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois rivers for Peru, Illinois, where he landed among strangers with a wife, two children, and 75 cents in cash September 20, 1842. After eleven years of working by the day and by the job, Mr. Waterman found himself possessed of a small farm, which he added to until he owned one of the best locations in the vicinity. The farm lay on both sides of the line, dividing LaSalle and Kendall counties. In 1865 he sold his interest and removed to Buda, Bureau County, Illinois, where he resided four years, when he came to Iowa. While residing in Pennsylvania Mr. Waterman was employed on the Portage Railroad, across the Allegheny Mountains, the first road in Pennsylvania. While in Illinois he served thirteen years as township and Government assessor and collector in the same locality, where he formerly worked at a salary of $10 per month. He raised a large family of children, nine of whom reached maturity, and five are still living, all well-to-do residents of Creston. Mr. Waterman has been a member of the Methodist church all his life, and has ever been an advocate for law and order. In politics he has always voted the Republican ticket since the party was organized. A history of Mr. Waterman's life is a record of adverse circumstances overcome by persistent energy and hard work, and, viewed as a whole, is a success most gratifying to himself and the faithful helpmeet, who has shared his joys and sorrows.

JAMES ARMSTRONG, an active and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Grant Township, living on section 14, is a native of Indiana, born in Union County October 11, 1835, a son of Robert and Ellen (Logan) Armstrong, who were natives of Virginia, both now deceased. James Armstrong received but limited educational advantages in his youth. His parents moved to Warren County, Illinois, when he was quite small, and when he was but seven years old his father died. His mother being in poor circumstances he was early in life inured to hard work, and started out on his own account on

tirely without means. He began working for farmers in Warren County by the month, which he followed for nine years. He then, at the age of twenty-five years, enlisted in the war of the Rebellion, in Company B, Eighty-third Illinois Infantry, and after serving his term of enlistment, in 1865 received an honorable discharge, at Nashville, Tennessee, when he returned to Warren County, Illinois. In 1867 he was married to Mary L. Hopper, a daughter of John and Eliza Hopper, natives of Ohio. Of the six children born to this union five are living—Ida E., born September 6, 1868; Ora E., born April 10, 1870; James E., born July 12, 1872; Lona B., born September 18, 1874, and John L., born November 24, 1876. Their youngest child died March 15, 1880, aged about nine months. Since coming to Union County Mr. Armstrong has been successful in his farming operations, and has made and improved a good home. He has 160 acres of well-cultivated land, eighty on section 14, Grant Township, where he resides, and eighty acres on section 15, of the same township, which he has gained by persevering industry and good management, and is now classed among the well-to-do farmers of his township. In politics Mr. Armstrong has always affiliated with the Republican party. He is a comrade of Henry Keating Post, No. 211, G. A. R., of Afton.

TO. BEERKLE, proprietor of City Meat Market, 110 Montgomery Street, Creston, keeps constantly on hand a fine assortment of pork, mutton, beef, etc., and is always ready and willing to do all he can to accommodate his customers. He was born in Baden, Germany, December 3, 1848, and is a son of John and Katherine Beerkle, natives also of Germany. He came to America in 1866, settling in Erie County, Pennsylvania; three years afterward he went to Chicago, Illinois, then to Galesburg, same State, three years, then to Rock Island, same State, where, in 1873, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Koch, who was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, in 1854. They are the parents of two children—Katie E., who was born in 1876, and one deceased. Mr. Beerkle came to Creston in 1874, since which time he has successfully followed his chosen calling. He commenced in life a poor man, but by habits of economy and perseverance, joined with honest dealing and the assistance of a good wife, he has prospered, as he now is the owner of the meat-market, slaughter-house, two houses and lots, and two acres of ground and three lots in the western portion of Creston. He is a clear-headed business man, and one of the enterprising and influential citizens of the place. Politically he is a Democrat, and religiously he is a member of the Catholic church, while his wife belongs to the German Lutheran church.

WILLIAM M. ELLIOTT, deceased, was born March 2, 1823, a son of John S. and Mary (Aufal) Elliott, who were natives of Kentucky. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and followed farming till his death. He went to Indiana in an early day, and was married in that State to Miss Sara A. Jordon, who was born October 5, 1822, a daughter of Nancy (Beaman) Jordon, the marriage taking place February 8, 1846. To this union were born thirteen children—Mary A., born November 25, 1846, is the wife of John S. Mason; Nancy J., born September 7, 1848, wife of James Dixon; William J., born May 28, 1850; John N., born August 1, 1852; Elizabeth A., born March 14, 1854; Henry M., born August 26, 1856; James S. and George H. (twins), born November 28, 1858; R. J., born November 4, 1860; Florence B., born April 11, 1863;

Walter S., born February 8, 1865; Alice J., born December 12, 1866; Sarah C., born March 3, 1869. Mr. Elliott remained in Indiana about ten years, when he removed with his family to Jasper County, Iowa. From there he came to Union County, being among the pioneer settlers. He subsequently went to Missouri, where he lived till his death, which occurred March 7, 1879. After his death his widow returned to the old homestead with her family, which she still owns and occupies. The home farm is located on section 28, Sand Creek Township, and contains 320 acres of choice land. Wherever he resided Mr. Elliott was universally respected, and while living in Union County he held several local offices of trust, including justice of the peace and township trustee, serving in all with honor to himself and to his constituents. He was a worthy Christian gentleman; a member of the Baptist church. In his political views he was independent, voting for man, not party.

BILDERBACK, a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser, living on section 36, Grant Township, is a native of Ohio, born April 5, 1830. His parents, Charles and Mary (Cooper) Bilderback, were natives of the State of Pennsylvania. They subsequently came to Iowa, and lived in Dallas County. Both are now deceased. Our subject was reared to the occupation of a farmer, which he has always followed. He grew to manhood in Ohio, then started West, and after spending a short time in Colorado he came to Union County, Iowa, settling on his present farm in 1869. He was married June 9, 1866, to Miss Elizabeth Hunesson, a daughter of Lewis and Martha Hunesson, who were natives of Ohio. Two sons have been born to this union—Perry Ellsworth, born April 21, 1867, and Walter G., born September 18, 1869, died March 13, 1883. Mr. Bilderback has met with excellent success in his agricultural pursuits, and now has 360 acres of well-improved land where he resides. His land is under cultivation, his house is comfortable and convenient, and his barns and other farm buildings are in good condition, and every thing about the place betokens care and thrift. Mr. Bilderback has served as township trustee and school director, beside filling other positions of trust in his township. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity.

ALFRED GRIM, farmer and stock-raiser, section 4, Douglas Township, was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, in 1821, his father being Thomas and his grandfather Christopher Grim, and his mother's maiden name Rachel McCullough; they were natives of Pennsylvania and of German ancestry. His maternal grandfather was Martin Grim, and his maternal grandmother, Mary Morgan, was a relative of the Morgan who was massacred by the Indians in Pennsylvania in early day. Mr. Grim, the subject of this sketch, was reared to the years of manhood in agricultural pursuits, which he has since generally followed; has also been a carpenter and brick-maker. He came to Union County in 1883, and is now a prosperous citizen. He had but little to start in life with. He taught school five years; is a member of the Christian church. Mr. Grim was married in 1846, in Pennsylvania, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Zebulon and Catharine (Shrontz) Ferrel, of English and German parentage. They have had ten children, nine of whom are living, as follows—Lyman P. S., who married Ellen Shouman, of Douglas Township, and has five children — Frank, Arthur Perry, John F., Elna and Thomas; Caroline, deceased; Catharine, wife of Joseph Coffman, and has three children—Charles, George and Gracie;

James F., who married Mary Pickrell; Belle, wife of John Tharp, and has three children—Katie, Annis and Mary, living in Pennsylvania; Rachel, wife of David Belyea, of Chicago; Mary M., wife of William McHary, and has one child—Mercella, and Emma J. and Ida M. John F. has been trustee of Eureka College, Illinois. Postoffice, Creston, box 577.

GEORGE HARTMAN, retired farmer, resides on section 35, Douglas Township, where he owns eighty acres of land. He was married in Pennsylvania, in 1832, to Juda Crites, a native of that State, and they have had thirteen children, six of whom are living—John C., Caroline A., Eliza A., Leah, Reuben, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Sarah and Jennetta. George and three infants are deceased. In 1873 Reuben married Frances Hill, who was born in Clermont County, Ohio, and they have had four children—Francis S., Judith, Barzilla B. and Ella M. He manages the farm of his father. The subject of the above short sketch came to this county in 1869; is a gentleman well respected by his neighbors. Postoffice, Creston.

PETER BOLLIG, deceased, was a native of Prussia, Germany, where he was reared, coming to the United States when a young man. He located in La Fayette, Indiana, where he learned the blacksmith's trade, at which he worked many years. He became proficient in the English language, attending a night school, and studying hard to master the language of his adopted country. In 1864 he came to Iowa, and opened a shop in Des Moines, and in 1868 moved to Madison County, where he lived six years on a farm, moving to Creston in 1874. In 1878 he located on the farm on section 18, Highland Township, where he built a brewery, which stopped business when the prohibition law was enforced, which was a great disadvantage to his family, who still reside on the same place. He was a hard-working, energetic man, and by economy and good management accumulated a good property. Mr. Bollig was married November 25, 1859, to Barbara Lehnert, daughter of Nicholas Lehnert. To them were born six children, but four of whom are living—Josephine, Maggie, Ida and Albert. One daughter, Mary, died aged sixteen years. Mr. Bollig died January 10, 1880, leaving his family and a large circle of friends to mourn the loss of a kind husband and father and an enterprising citizen.

CHARLES R. COOPER, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 26, Jones Township, where he owns eighty acres of land, in good condition. He was born in Hardin County, Ohio, in 1837, and is a son of Andrew and Lydia (Robison) Cooper, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Connecticut. He was but eight years old when his mother died, and in 1853 he came West with his father and step-mother, settling in Pleasant Township. In 1857 he went to Oregon, and at a place called "Devil's Gap" he came into company with General Custer, with whom he remained four months, fighting the Indians. Thence he went to Missouri and thence to Santa Fe, New Mexico, and finally crossed the Isthmus of Tehuantepec into Central America. Returning by way of New Orleans and St. Louis, he stopped in Ray County, Missouri, where, by the ruthless hand of rebels, he lost about $2,000 worth of property. In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and served three years, engaging in the battle at Helena, Arkansas, and Vicksburg and Little Rock and Camden, in the same State, and also in

the Red River Expedition. After wintering at Little Rock he went to Atgeres, and participated in the siege of Mobile and many other battles of less note. Mr. Cooper was married at Afton, Iowa, November 2, 1866, to Miss Ida F., daughter of William Sewers. She was born in Prussia, in 1843. Mr. Cooper was for eight months in the employ of Mr. Hull, a Government surveyor on the fifth and sixth parallel. He has traveled a great deal, and is a well-informed gentleman.

D. H. BROOKS, farmer, stock-raiser and dealer, resides on section 3, Douglas Township, where he has 150 acres of good land, highly cultivated. He was born in Windham County, Vermont, in 1835, his parents being George and Salina (Houghton) Brooks, natives also of the Green Mountain State, of English ancestry. They immigrated to Peoria, Illinois, where the subject of our notice lived until 1857; then, until 1875, he was a resident of Henry County, same State, and finally he settled in Union County, where he still resides. The place was then partially improved, and, although he had nothing to commence for himself with, he has succeeded in establishing the foundation of a permanent and comfortable home. His house he erected in 1880, at a cost of $1,000, and his barns and outbuildings cost $1,000; an acre and a half he has in orchard. He sells about fifty head of cattle and hogs annually. He rears the English carriage horse, or the Cleveland Bay. He is classed among the solid and influential citizens of Union County. In politics he is a Republican, and both himself and wife are members of the Congregational church. He has been supervisor for several years, and school director. He was married in Henry County, Illinois, in 1859, to Miss Marion V., daughter of Abraham and Betsy (Scudder) Bush, the former a native of Holland and the latter of New York. Mrs. Brooks was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, in 1839. The five children by this matrimonial union are—Charles E., Willis M., Lewis E., Estella and John H. Postoffice, Creston.

THOMAS H. LEECH, farmer and stock-raiser, section 35, Highland Township, residing on section 35, was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, May 1, 1847, a son of James and Nancy (McKnight) Leech, natives of the same county. They came with their family to Iowa in 1855, and settled in Lucas County. They made the entire journey by wagon, being a month on the road, and made their home in Union Township, that county, where they still live, the father aged seventy-three and the mother seventy-two years. Thomas H. Leech, our subject, was about eight years old when he accompanied his parents to Iowa. He was reared on the home farm, and educated in the common schools of Lucas County, remaining in that county till 1876. He was married August 18, 1870, to Mrs. Mary J. Leech, who was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, January 15, 1840, a daughter of David Cooper. The parents of Mrs. Leech were both natives of Washington County, Pennsylvania, and also her grandparents, Sylvanus and Mary (Bryant) Cooper, who were of Holland descent. Mrs. Leech is the eldest in a family of ten children, five sons and five daughters, all of whom are living. Her parents are also living in Scotland County, Missouri. By her first husband Mrs. Leech had two children—Ida M. and Eugene E. Ida married George Vincent, of Grant Township, and has two children—Earl A. and an infant daughter. To Mr. and Mrs. Leech have been born six children, of whom five are living—John F., Don C., Jessie F., Loy C. and Berttie C. Mr. Leech came with his family to Union County in February, 1876, locating on his present

farm, which at that time was raw prairie land entirely unimproved. He now owns 240 acres of well-cultivated land with good buildings, fine groves, and an abundance of fruit trees, all of which has been done within the last ten years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Leech are members of the Congregational church.

JOSEPH FRIEND, dealer in clothing, gents' furnishing goods, hats, caps, valises, trunks, etc., at 129 Pine Street, Creston, carries about $25,000 worth of stock, and his sales annually amount to about $40,000. He was born in Poland, in 1835, and is the son of Isaac and Blanche Friend, also natives of that country. He was eighteen years of age when he immigrated to America. Besides receiving a good education, he had in his youth considerable experience in various mercantile clerkships. All his present wealth he has accumulated by his own honest industry. He came to Creston in 1878, engaging in his present business. Besides his prosperous business, he owns a fine dwelling house and lot. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and politically he is in sympathy with Republicanism. He was married in 1867 in the city of New York, to Harriet Hernstein, who was born in 1848. They have five children—Alfred I., Frederica, Benny, Blanche and Charlotte.

R. ALLEN, dealer in groceries, candies, cigars and tobacco, 104 East Union Street, Creston, was born in Meade County, Kentucky, in 1820; his father, William Allen, was also a native of that State, and his mother, whose maiden name was Lydia Richardson, was from the State of New York; both were of English ancestry. Having been brought up in agricultural pursuits, he continued in the same until 1872, in which he succeeded well. In 1872 he entered the grocery business, renting his farm. He owns the property where he lives, his business property, and 600 acres of land in Southeast Missouri, near Cairo, Illinois. He once owned fifteen slaves, who were freed by the war. He has held the office of alderman in the city of Creston two terms. He was married in Charleston, Missouri, March 5, 1845, to Martha T. Keesee, who was born in that State, and died in 1862. For his second wife Mr. Allen married, in Missouri, January 28, 1864, Frances H. Lamb, who was born where a portion of the suburbs of Burlington now is, being the second white child born in Iowa, July 29, 1835. She died July 12, 1885, leaving one child, Samuel R., who was born in 1867. In June, 1886, he graduated at the Creston High School; is now studying law with McDill and Sullivans. He is a young man of much promise.

WILLIAM I. STEPHEN, farmer, stock-raiser and shipper, resides on section 26, Douglas Township, where he is the owner of 160 acres of good land, well cultivated; he also has 160 acres on section 28. He was born in Kendall County, Illinois, February 5, 1844, a son of William and Margaret (Waterman) Stephen, the former of Scotch, and the latter of German ancestry; they are at present living in Grundy County, Illinois. William I. Stephen grew to the years of manhood on a farm in his native county, and has followed agriculture most of the time through life; was engaged one year in a meat-market in Creston, in company with H. F. Hamilton. Having at the start only a team of horses, he commenced as a renter; rented one farm for thirteen years, then purchased 720 acres in Adams County, of which he still owns 480 acres. He also manages the old Waterman farm. He feeds about 100 cattle. Mr. Stephen was married in his native county in 1868, to Miss Hattie A.

daughter of Lot and Hannah (Kirkland) Schofield, who were among the earliest settlers of that county, and are still living. Mr. Stephen's father, who came to Chicago as early as 1837, was also an early settler there. Mrs. Stephen was born in 1851. They have had eight children, six of whom are living, namely—Addie C., Eddie, Harry, Charles, Mabel and Willis R. Mr. Stephen was township supervisor in Illinois four years, and he has held the office of school director, and is at present township trustee. Politically he is a Republican. Postoffice, Creston. He has again formed a partnership with Mr. Hamilton in the wholesale meat business in Creston and Omaha, and contemplates moving to the latter city early in 1887.

G. C. LUCAS, dealer in flour, feed, coal and agricultural implements, at 212 East Montgomery Street, Creston, keeps a well-selected stock of goods and sells as low as any one in Western Iowa. The stand he occupies was located by Lucas & Ferguson. The stock comprises about $5,000 worth of goods, the sales amount annually to about $40,000, and freight, $7,000; has sold $16,000 worth of self-binders alone; keeps three hands employed constantly, and five a portion of the time. Mr. Lucas was born in Grant County, Kentucky, in 1843, his parents being Richard and Elizabeth (Reed) Lucas, natives also of Kentucky and of English descent. He grew up to the age of manhood on a Kentucky farm, near Williamstown, and in March, 1862, enlisted in Company E, Eighth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, and in 1864 reenlisted in the same regiment; but was afterward transferred to the Fourth Kentucky Mounted Infantry, and served till the close of the war. He participated in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Laurel Hill and Lookout Mountain. He was married in Kentucky in 1867, to Louesa E. Nix, who was born in 1847, in Grant County, Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas have eight children—James R., Ira B., Elfie, Anna E., Charles H., Jessie L., Nellie and Everett. Mr. Lucas has been a member of Bunker Hill Lodge, No. 302, A. F. & A. M., at Creston, since 1868, also of Post No. 61, G. A. R. He has held the offices of school director and township trustee.

D. G. WYCOFF, veterinary physician and surgeon, and surveyor, Creston, has his office at Waltman's feed-yard, or on Montgomery Street, his residence being at the corner of Birch and Harsh streets. He was born in Mercer County, Kentucky, September 9, 1833. His parents, Daniel A. and Ann (Wilson) Wycoff, were also natives of the "Corncracker" State, and of German ancestry. He was three years of age when his father moved to Decatur County, Indiana, where they resided until 1855, our subject being brought up to the occupation of farming. From 1855 to 1859 he was a resident of Clark County, Illinois; then, until 1861, in Crawford County, same State. At that time he enlisted in the army for the service of his country, joining Company G, Sixty-third Illinois Infantry, and served to the close of the war, four years. He was in the battles of Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge, Allatoona Pass, Bentonville, North Carolina, and many others of less note—twenty engagements altogether, coming through all without a scratch! The same year of the close of the war, namely, 1865, Mr. Wycoff was married at Harrodsburg, Kentucky, to Lucy B. Thompson, who was born near Danville, Boyle County, Kentucky. They have five children—Thomas, David, William, Minnie, and Maud. Mr. Wycoff owns eighty acres of land in Lincoln Township, section 10, sixty acres of which is in a high state of cultivation. He first came

to Union County in 1865, settling in New Hope Township. Has been practicing the veterinary art for about twenty years, including the castration of horses, and has been a close student and diligent reader. In politics he is a Greenbacker.

WILLIAM McCAFFERTY, one of the successful agriculturists of Platte Township, residing on section 9, is a native of Ohio, born September 7, 1846, his parents, Mathias and Mary (Bennett) McCafferty, being natives of the same State and of Dutch and Irish ancestry. Our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits in the State of Iowa, coming to Henry County, Iowa, with his parents in 1849. He was married in Henry County, in 1868, to Vashti E. Joy, a daughter of James and Mary Joy, natives of Illinois. To them have been born three children—Clara, born in 1868, and Harry, born in 1881, both died in December, 1880; and Guy C., born in November, 1883. Mr. McCafferty came to Union County from Henry County in 1870, and since coming here has followed farming and stock-raising on his present farm, and has brought his 120 acres under a good state of cultivation. In politics he was formerly a Democrat, but now affiliates with the Greenback party.

JAMES M. McDONALD, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Spaulding Township, occupies section 10, where he is the proprietor of 220 finely cultivated acres. Besides these he owns 320 acres elsewhere in Union County. He is an enterprising and influential man, a social gentleman and a reliable neighbor and friend. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, of the Grand Army of the Republic, and of the Methodist Episcopal church. In obedience to his country's call he enlisted in the late war, mustering in Company A, One Hundred and Thirteenth Ohio Infantry Volunteers, and served two months. He was born in Madison County, Ohio, in 1842, his parents being John and Sallie McDonald, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Virginia; the date of the father's birth was December 29, 1823, and that of the mother October 11, 1805. Mr. McDonald attained the years of manhood in the vocation of agriculture, upon his father's farm in his native county, and this calling he has ever since successfully followed. It was in the same county in the year 1863, that he entered the state of matrimony, his bride being Miss Lucy Withrow, daughter of Washington and Catherine (Truman) Withrow, natives respectively of Ohio and New York State; the latter at present reside in Madison County. Mrs. McDonald was born in the same county in 1846. There are six children of Mr. and Mrs. McDonald—Estella, a teacher; John, Edith, Perry, Imogene and Mertelle.

NEAL W. ROWELL, of Afton, is one of the most prominent lawyers of Southern Iowa, and dates his settlement here from July 14, 1858, which was antecedent to that of any other lawyer of Union County. He was born in Athens County, Ohio, June 19, 1836. In 1847 his father, William Rowell, removed with his family to Wapello County, this State, purchasing a claim, which he afterward entered and improved. Later he removed to Decatur City, Decatur County, where he died in January, 1859. His wife died at Afton, at the home of her son, in March, 1870. In 1853 Mr. Rowell returned to Athens, and entered the Ohio University, where he graduated in 1856. He began the study of the legal profession at Centerville, Iowa, in 1857, with Judge Amos Harris, and was admitted to the bar in April, 1858, and came to Afton immediately afterward. His

entire professional life has been passed as a member of the bar of Union County. He has been associated at different times with most of the principal lawyers at Afton. His first partnership was with Judge James G. Day, now of Des Moines. This relation existed two years, when Judge Day removed. In 1866 he became associated with Judge James W. McDill. January 1, 1869, his partner became circuit judge, and the partnership terminated. He was then associated with D. D. Gregory until the latter was elected to the bench in 1870. He then remained alone until 1876, when J. M. Milligan, Esq., became his partner, which relation continued until 1884, and since that time he has been alone. Few men are better known throughout Southern Iowa than is Judge Rowell. His official career has extended over a great many years. He was elected judge of Union County in 1860, serving two years. He was a member of the Twelfth and Thirteenth general assemblies; has twice served as mayor of Afton, and was member of the School Board fifteen consecutive years. The professional and official career of Judge Rowell is one that the young man who is entering upon a business for life, professional or otherwise, would be wise to imitate. To a thorough knowledge of his profession, and an excellent judgment of human nature, he adds a genial and kindly disposition, with a firmness of purpose that guides him in the course he believes to be right. The universal esteem in which he is held by his fellow-citizens attest his influence for the best interests of the community. Politically he is a decided Republican. Reaching his majority about the time the Republican party was organized he at once became enrolled in its ranks, where he has ever since been found. He has never missed a regular election, and was ever ready in exciting times of the past to defend the principles of the party of his choice. He has from his youth preferred and practiced temperance, and has engrafted into his political creed the doctrine of prohibition. Judge Rowell was married to Miss Anna E. Ownby, daughter of James H. and Allie (Ray) Ownby. The former is deceased and the latter lives with Judge Rowell. Mrs. Rowell was born in Franklin County, Virginia, and about 1848 removed with her parents to Marion County, Iowa, and to Decatur County in 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Rowell have four children—James W., Helen, Bessie and Neal C. Their ages range from four to twenty-two years.

D. LAPORT, who is associated with his brother, J. C. Laport, in his farming operations on section 1, of Grant Township, where they own 160 acres of well-cultivated land, is a native of Ohio, born November 8, 1842, a son of Charles and Sarah (Wallace) Laport, who were both natives of the State of Ohio. The father being a farmer, our subject was reared to the same occupation, which he has always followed. He came to Iowa in 1856, an early day, being among the pioneers of Union County, where he located in 1875, in which year he settled on the farm where he has since resided. He was married in 1863, to Miss Nancy Weddle, who was born December 11, 1843, a daughter of Daniel and Maria (Brown) Weddle, who were natives of Pennsylvania. To this union were born two daughters named—Margaret B. and Sarah M. The Laport brothers, on coming to Union County, located on their present farm which they bought second-hand, but which was entirely unimproved. By hard work and good management they have brought their land under cultivation, and made a comfortable home, and are now classed among the enterprising and well-to-do farmers of Grant Township. Both brothers were soldiers in the war of the Rebellion, C. D. enlisting in Company D, Eleventh Iowa Infantry. He is now a member of Henry Keating Post, No. 211, G. A. R., of Afton. J. C. is also a member of the

same post. He served in Company C. Twenty-third Ohio Infantry. C. D. was wounded at the battle of Shiloh from which he was discharged, and came home. R. W., another brother, served in the Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry, and is now living in St. Joseph, Missouri.

H. FORSYTH, baggage agent at Creston, was born in Logan County, Ohio, in 1852, a son of William and Mary (Magill) Forsyth, father a native of New York, of Scotch descent, and mother of Pennsylvania, of German ancestry. His father immigrated to California in 1852, and died there in 1854, and his mother moved with him to Ringgold County, Iowa, where he, at the age of nine years, was bound out, and immediately placed at work at the carpenter's trade, at which he continued until he arrived at the age of eighteen years. Then, until 1885, he labored in that capacity for the Burlington & Missouri Railroad, and was finally appointed to his present position, which he fills with perfect satisfaction. Indeed, he takes uniform pleasure in giving all necessary information to strangers, and in accommodating the patrons of his road in every way he can. He is a member of the Odd Fellows order, is a Democrat in his politics, and a liberalist in religion. He has a brother in Fulton, Illinois, and a sister in Ringgold County, Iowa.

CARL PEARSON, of the firm of Carl Pearson & Co., cigar and tobacco merchants, 111 Adams street, Creston, was born in Sweden, in 1845, and immigrated to America in 1869, landing at New York. After making a trip through the South, including Texas and Mexico, looking for a location, he settled in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and remained there eleven years, during which time he married Ida Anderson, who was born in Sweden, in 1850. They have three children—Oscar W., Ruth E. and Pearlie L. Mr. Pearson is a popular man, clear-headed and well calculated for business. He owns the property where he is doing business, a house and lot in Creston, besides 1,280 acres of land in Nebraska. He has a remarkable relic in his possession, being a pipe of wonderful construction, said to have belonged to Charles XII. of Sweden. He has refused $1,500 for it. The firm of Pearson & Co. keep a good stock of merchandise in their line, have ten to fifteen hands constantly employed in the manufacture of cigars. They are polite and always ready to accommodate their customers.

R. S. BEYMER, member of the implement firm of R. S. Beymer & Son, is one of the well-known pioneers of Union County having settled in Afton in 1858. He was born in Seneca County, Ohio, in 1835, where he grew to manhood. His father, Arthur St. Clair Beymer, was a native of Guernsey County, Ohio, born in 1802, and was married to Miss Ruth Skinner at New Haven, Ohio, in 1828. Miss Skinner was born at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, in 1810. They removed to Seneca County in 1834, and in 1870 came to Afton, where Mr. Beymer died two years later. His wife is still living at Afton. They had ten children, all of whom grew to maturity, and all came to Afton except the two eldest daughters, who still live in Ohio. R. S. Beymer was reared to the occupation of a farmer. He was married in 1857 to Lucy Jane Drown, daughter of Solomon and Fannie Drown. She was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, and when a child moved with her parents to Ohio. Mr. Drown was born in 1789, and in 1820 was married to Miss Fannie Dennis, who was his second wife. Mr. Drown had seven children by his first wife and ten children by his second

R. S. Beymer

none of whom became residents of Union County except Mrs. Beymer. Mr. Drown died in Seneca County, Ohio, in the sixty-ninth year of his age. Mrs. Drown died in 1880, at Clyde, Ohio, at the age of seventy-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Beymer have four children—Ella, Lotta, Arthur S. and Albert R. The eldest daughter was married in 1878 to A. P. Cramer, editor and publisher of the Walnut *News*. They had one child—Reuben F. Mrs. Cramer became a widow in 1886. Lotta was married to W. J. Phillips, D.D.S., in 1885. They live at Afton. Politically Mr. Beymer is a Republican, and has been identified with that party ever since he attained his majority. He has served several terms as city councilman, and as a member of the School Board. He has been engaged in his present business in Afton for the past seventeen years, and in the fall of 1886 took his eldest son as a partner in the business. He has built up a good trade, and for years has been the principal dealer in the town.

MARTIN REISH resides on section 7, Union Township, where he setted in 1861. He has been a resident of Union County since 1857. Mr. Reish was born in Buffalo Valley, Union County, Pennsylvania, October 12, 1823. When he was ten years old his father, Samuel Reish, removed with his family to Miami County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood, and where his parents resided until their decease. In 1852 he went to Fayette County, Indiana, where he married Sarah Billingsley, daughter of Charles Billingsley, a native of Pennsylvania. He was killed by the kick of a horse when his daughter Sarah was a child. She was born in Miami County, Ohio, in 1829. When Mr. Reish first came to this county he lived in Jones Township, until he settled upon his present farm. He owns 160 acres of land in the center of section 4, forty acres being on each quarter-section. But few persons are living in Union County that were here when Mr. Reish came. Mr. and Mrs. Reish have five sons—Benjamin Franklin, Charles, William, John and Jacob. They lost a daughter, Nancy Margaret, who died at the age of ten years, and a son died in infancy. In politics Mr. Reish is a Democrat.

EMANUEL W. LUSTER, of the firm of Luster, Farley & Hardenbrook, real estate dealers, Creston, was born at St. Thomas Lower Canada, in 1824. His father, Samuel Luster, was a native of Rutland, Vermont, and his mother, Susan (Winters) Luster, was a nativeof Pennsylvania. His father was left an orphan at an early age, and when he had grown to maturity he went to Pennsylvania, and there met the lady who afterward became his wife. Soon after marriage they removed to Canada. When Emanuel W. was a year and a half old the family removed to Cleveland, Ohio, where the parents passed the remainder of their days. The father was a tanner and currier by trade, and followed that business many years. At his death his son Samuel succeeded to the business, which he still continues. The parents had nine children—six sons and three daughters, all but two grew to maturity, and are still living. The names of the children are—Samuel, Emanuel W., John, who died at the age of ten years; Catherine, widow of A. Adams, of Cleveland; Wellington, died at two years of age; George is a resident of East Cleveland, and a harnessmaker by trade; he was a soldier in an Ohio regiment in the war of the Rebellion; Elizabeth, wife of a Mr. Watson; Sanford, a resident of Cleveland, who has been for many years engaged in the drug business in that city, and Harriet, wife of C. Crosby, of Cleveland. All are residents of Cleveland, except the subject of this notice, and his early life was spent in that city. He served an ap

prenticeship with his father in learning the tanner's and currier's trade, and worked at the business with his brother-in-law, Thomas T. White, for a time. He then engaged in the same business at Painesville, Ohio, where he remained two years, then sold out and went to Sandwich, Canada West, near Detroit, where he took charge of a tannery owned by James Woodbridge. He remained at this place two years, then removed to Kingsville, Canada, and kept a hotel two years. He then purchased a hotel at Unionville, Essex County, Canada, which he fitted up and conducted three years and exchanged it for a farm. A year later he sold his farm and rented a large hotel at Windsor, and in another returned to Ohio. He purchased a farm in Cuyahoga County, near Cleveland, where he lived for a time, then sold out and lived in North Amherst two years. In 1864 Mr. Luster immigrated with his family to Cedar County, Iowa, where he purchased a farm and was also engaged in buying and shipping stock. He lived there until he came to Creston in 1875. He was married in Ohio to Ellen C. White, a native of Erie County, New York, born July 17, 1824. Her father, Thomas White, died before his daughter was born. Mr. and Mrs. Luster have two children—Emanuel T. and Ellen C. Mr. Luster is the street commissioner of Creston, and is now serving his sixth term in that capacity. Politically he is a Republican. Mr. Luster's mother never married after the death of her husband, and lived in Ohio until her death. She had seven children and all but one are living.

K. BOUSLOUGH, proprietor of a livery, feed and transfer stable, south side of Adams street, Creston, keeps a full stock of horses and buggies, and waits upon his customers with a great deal of pleasure. He was born in Blair County, Pennsylvania, in 1852, and the family moved, with him, when he was young, to La Salle County, Illinois, where he remained until 1881, when he came to Creston. He opened his present business in 1883.

J. C. WALLACE, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 26, Douglas Township, where he owns 160 well-cultivated acres, a fine residence, a barn, etc. He was born in Philadelphia on August 3, 1836. His parents, William B. and Charlotte (Wunder) Wallace, were also natives of that city. The former died in 1864, at the age of sixty-five years, and the latter is still living at Sandwich, Illinois. In his boyhood and youth Mr. Wallace worked with his father in Philadelphia, at the stone-potter's trade. His father was in early life a farmer, and afterward a potter. He was the first steel-crucible maker in America. Going to England he started a plumbago-crucible, which met with great success, it being the first of the kind in Europe. Although inducements were offered him to remain there, he, having filled his contract, returned to Jersey City two years, then to Philadelphia, where he became a partner with Hussey & Co., the largest steel firm in the United States. Our subject subsequently took his father's place, followed the business for six years, then, after being out of business a year, he came West, in 1877, locating upon his present farm, which at that time had but little improvement upon it. The same year he built a house, at a cost of $2,000, besides a barn, costing $800, and other structures. Mr. Wallace was married in 1859, in Illinois, to Amanda C. Waterman, who was born in LaSalle County, that State, in 1841. By that marriage there were three children—Frederick G., James L. and Lovina A. Mrs. Wallace died October 3, 1865, and Mr. Wallace was again married in Pittsburg, in 1866, to Miss L.

bella W., a daughter of Samuel and Jane Baird; she was born in that city in 1841. The children by this marriage are two in number —Samuel E. and Lottie L. Mr. Wallace has been township trustee, and in politics he is a Republican. His father had eight children, six of whom are living. His grandfather Wallace was a soldier in the war of 1812. Postoffice, Creston.

J. A. JOHNSON, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on the northwest quarter of section 1, Spaulding Township, where he owns 160 acres of land in good cultivation. He was born in Sweden, in 1843, son of Alexander and Sarah Johnson, natives also of that country, and still living with the subject of this sketch. They immigrated to this country in 1849, settling in Andover, Henry County, Illinois; from there, in 1852, they removed to Burlington, Iowa. In 1855, J. A. Johnson, the subject of this notice, went to Minnesota, entered and improved a piece of land, remaining upon it eight years. In 1862 he enlisted in Company H, Ninth Minnesota Infantry, and served three years, participating in battles in defense of his own State against the Indians one year. Then he went down the river to Memphis, and was engaged in the battles of Guntown and Tupelo, and from there to New Orleans, Mobile, Blakely, Spanish Fort, Montgomery, etc., and "bushwhacking" and foraging through Missouri, and finally to St. Anthony, Minnesota, where he was mustered out. At that time his father was living in Galesburg, Illinois. Mr. Johnson was married in 1868, in Jefferson County, Iowa, to Louisa Munson, who was born in Sweden, in 1843. They have had five children, three of whom are living—Minnie S., Charles A. and Sarah E. Mr. Johnson has been school director, supervisor, school trustee, etc. Politically, a Republican, and religiously, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, being one of the trustees, and also one of the principal men to establish the society here in Spaulding Township; is active in religious and benevolent enterprises.

WILLIAM FLOHRA, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 14, Pleasant Township, where he owns 400 acres of land, constituting a valuable farm. He is well and comfortably settled in life, and considered one of the most enterprising agriculturists of the township, possessing the confidence of the people. In his political views he is a Democrat. He is the son of Frank and Mary Flohra, was born in Germany, in 1828, immigrated to California in 1855, lived there ten years, then was a resident nine and a half years in the State of New York, when he came to Union County and purchased land where he now resides. He was married in 1868, to Louisa Dvehrt, also a native of Germany, who died the next year, leaving one child—Samuel. In 1871 Mr. Flohra married Sarah Walters, a native of Pennsylvania, and by this marriage there are seven children—Anna, Louisa, William, Cora, Albert, Edward and Laura. Mr. Flohra remained at home with his parents till of age, learning the principles of farming, which has been the occupation of his life.

JALMA DAVENPORT, a prominent member of the Union County bar, has been a resident of Afton since 1875. He was born in DeWitt County, Illinois, July 23, 1853. His father, Levi Davenport, was born in Albany, New York, in 1812. He was a minister of the Gospel, and for several years traveled in the South in that capacity. About 1845 he located in DeWitt County. His mother, Mary F. (Hutchins) Davenport, was born in Butler County, Ohio.

in 1818. He was educated at the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Iowa, and was engaged in teaching for some time, beginning at the age of sixteen years. He studied law and was admitted to the bar at Ottawa, Illinois, February 25, 1875, coming to Afton soon after, and entering the office of McDill and Sullivan. He attended to the collections of this firm, an experience which has proved of great value to him. He has been in independent practice since 1880, and has a good, lucrative practice. His office is in the bank building at Afton. He has a complete set of abstract books, and is president of the Union County Abstract Incorporation. In politics he a Democrat, and he has held the office of justice of the peace six years. Mr. Davenport was married in 1879, to Miss Belle Howard, a native of Illinois, and they have three children—Carl, Kenneth and Ora.

FRANKLIN ARMSTRONG, one of the practical farmers of Dodge Township, living on section 28, is a native of Augusta County, born July 4, 1830, a son of William Armstrong who is now living in Kansas. Our subject accompanied his parents to Morgan County, Indiana, in 1842, and there he attended school in the rude log-cabin school-house of his neighborhood with its slab seats, stick and mud chimney and puncheon floor, and in this building he received the rudiments of an education. He was married in 1851, to Miss Mary A. Bowles, a daughter of John Bowles, deceased, and of the ten children born to them six are still living—William, Frank, Harvey, Augusta, Huldah and Flora. They have a grandchild named Maggie living with them, whom they have adopted. In the spring of 1855 Mr. Armstrong removed from Indiana with his family to Madison County, Iowa. In 1858 he went to Arkansas, returning to Iowa a year and a half later, and in 1865 came to Union County. He went to Texas in the fall of 1875, returning to Union County in the spring of 1878, where he has since been engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was reared a farmer and has always followed that avocation, in which he has met with good success, and is now the owner of 240 acres of choice land where he resides. He is one of the public-spirited citizens of Dodge Township, and served his township efficiently as trustee and school treasurer. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

HENRY W. LEWIS, business manager of the Creston daily and weekly *Gazette*, is a native of Muscatine County, Iowa. He is the son of Clark and Rachel (Wright) Lewis, who were Ohioans by birth, and came in an early day to Muscatine County, where their parents were pioneers. They were married, and still live in that county near West Liberty. Mr. Lewis has at different times farmed and kept hotel, and is now retired. Their family includes four children—Belle, now Mrs. J. W. McElravy, of West Liberty; Nellie, now Mrs. F. W. Halderman, of Avoca; Henry W., subject of this sketch, and Fannie, now Mrs. Charles Keith, of Des Moines. Henry W. was born on the farm near West Liberty, March 7, 1857, and resided with his parents until nineteen years old, attending school the greater part of the time. He studied for some years in the city schools of West Liberty. In 1876 he entered the *Enterprise* office in that city, where he served an apprenticeship of three years at the printer's trade. He remained in that office altogether six years, the latter portion of the time as manager of the office. In 1883 he went to Iowa City, and was employed as telegraph editor and foreman of the Iowa City *Republican*. In March, 1885, he came to Creston, where he has since filled the position of business

ness manager of the *Gazette*. He was married October 27, 1880, near Atalissa, Muscatine County, to Miss Ida L. Rowe, daughter of Dr. D. L. Rowe. They have two children—Leigh R. and Alta B. Mr. Lewis is politically a Republican. He is active and careful in business matters, and has a genial manner and sunny disposition that ensure him a host of friends.

MARK BLANCHARD, formerly a sheriff of Union County, is one of the early settlers of Creston, coming to this place early in March, 1875. He was born in Peacham, Caledonia County, Vermont, in 1821. His parents, Hazen and Sarah Blanchard, were also natives of the Green Mountain State, and lived in Caledonia County until their decease. They had seven children—two sons and five daughters, all of whom are still living except Eliza. Mercy and Harriet reside in Peacham, Vermont; Sarah, in Rome, New York; Chandler E., in Lincoln, Nebraska; Isabelle, in Malcom, Iowa. The subject of this sketch was the elder son and third child of his parents. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, when he engaged in railroading on the Vermont Central & Passumpsic Railroad, where he continued four years. In 1850 he went to California, *via* Vanderbilt line, where he was engaged in mining. In 1854 he returned to Vermont, and soon afterward came West, settling at Osceola, Stark County, Illinois, where he was engaged in farming. In 1875 he came to Creston and purchased 240 acres of land in Spaulding Township, and the same amount in Douglas Township, all of which he improved. He also obtained 160 acres in Guthrie. He still owns the land above mentioned, but his residence has been in Creston ever since he came to this county. His fine residence on Sycamore street he built in 1875, being the third house erected in Devoe's first addition. In the autumn of 1881 Mr. Blanchard was elected sheriff of Union County, and served in that capacity two terms, four years. He was the first Democrat ever elected to a county office in this county. He was married in Vermont to Harriet Partridge, a native also of Peacham. His family consists of five children, four of whom are living. The eldest son, Mellen F., married Jennie Davis, of Bradford, Illinois. His family consists of three children—two sons and a daughter. He resides in St. Paul, Nebraska; is engaged in stock-raising. J. Burton, the second son, married Mary Booth (now deceased), in Stuart, Iowa. His family consists of three daughters. He is a resident of Omaha, Nebraska, engaged in stock commission business. Allie K. was married in Osceola, Illinois, to A. B. Hall, now a stock-shipper of Creston, Iowa. They have three daughters. Eugene H., died in Stuart, Iowa, August 18, 1883, twenty-five years of age, unmarried. Onie B. was married to Craig Armstrong, a machinist, and resides in Creston, Iowa. They have had one son, deceased.

JAMES H. WALLACE resides on the "South Hill" addition to Creston, where he located in July, 1882. At that time he built his residence and commenced planting a nursery. He now has sixty-three acres included in his nursery grounds, the whole of which he intends to keep occupied with a general nursery stock. Forty acres are now occupied and the remainder is being prepared for that purpose. A full description of the grounds and stock would be impossible; but a brief mention is here given: He has one block of 65,000 of the various kinds of apple trees two years old, which were planted in the spring of 1885; also another block of 4,000 apple trees of three years' growth, this block having been planted in 1883. This block also contains a large number of box

elder, white ash, evergreens, etc. He has another block of 65,000 yearlings, and a block of six acres of ground that contains 115,000 trees planted in 1885. His nursery contains a great variety of small fruits of the most approved kinds. His stock is in a remarkably fine condition, and his grounds everywhere indicate taste and industry in their culture. Mr. Wallace was born in Canada, in September, 1839. At the age of twenty years he went to the State of Illinois, and five years later returned to Canada and engaged as a traveling salesman for Thomas McCormick, of London, Canada, in the sale of sugar and confectionery. He then returned to Illinois, and three years later came to Union County, where he purchased a farm in Douglas Township, which he still owns. He was a successful farmer, and is well adapted to the enterprise in which he is engaged. He was married in Illinois to Miss Mary A. Compton, a native of Kendall County, and they have one daughter—Ada May.

HENRY VINCENT, section 35, Highland Township, is a native of England, born in Lincolnshire, August 19, 1819, a son of John Vincent, a native of Norfolkshire. He was reared in his native country, and came to the United States in 1848. He lived in Franklin County, Ohio, until 1850, when he moved to St. Joseph County, Indiana, and in 1856 came to Iowa, and located in Union County, on the land which is now his farm. It was then wholly unimproved, but he has planted groves, erected fine buildings, and in other ways improved it until he now has one of the pleasantest homes in the county. He has been a hard-working man and has acquired his property by economy and good management. His farm contains 220 acres of choice land, and in addition to this he has given his son 120 acres. Mr. Vincent was married in Indiana, in 1851, to Anna Wray. To them have been born two children—George H. and Eda M. George married Ida Leech, and lives in Grant Township. He has two children—Earl and Glee. Mr. Vincent is a public-spirited, influential citizen of the county, and is always among the first to give assistance to any enterprise of benefit to either the social or material welfare of his township. Mrs. Vincent is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

D. M. NORTON, M. D., proprietor of the drug store at Kent, and also engaged in dealing in grain, is one of the active and enterprising men of Union County, with whose interests he has been identified since 1873. He is a native of Ohio, born December 12, 1833, a son of Edwin and Louisa (Weils) Norton, who were born in Connecticut, both being now deceased. He was reared at his birthplace till seventeen years of age, and the two years following he was employed on a sailing vessel. He then began learning engineering, which he followed for three years, by which time, 1855, he had saved enough money to enable him to attend medical lectures. In 1862 he located in Illinois, remaining there two years, when he came to Iowa, and a year later returned to Illinois. He remained in that State till 1873, when he again came to Iowa, locating at Creston, Union County, where he was engaged in practicing medicine. After Kent became incorporated as a town he came to this place, where he established the pioneer drug store, and at the same time engaged in the grain business. He still practices medicine, and during his residence here has built up a large and lucrative practice, being well skilled in his chosen profession. Dr. Norton has been twice married, taking for his first wife Miss Sela Benton, by whom he had two children—Luella and Charles. He was married a second time to Miss Belle Powers, a native of Ken-

tucky, and to this union has been born one child. The doctor has filled the office of county supervisor, in which he has served with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents.

SQUIRE OLINGER, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 3 of Pleasant Township, where he owns 525 acres of well-cultivated land, was born in Henry County, Indiana, in 1842. His parents, Phillip and Mariah (Feltenbarger) Olinger, were from Pennsylvania. He was brought up to manhood on a farm in his native county, and has ever since followed his inherited calling. His farm is one of the best in the county. He stands high in his community, having been elected to the office of county supervisor three years, justice of the peace, township assessor, township clerk, etc., and is a member of Concordia Lodge, No. 215, A. F. & A. M. and Hopeville Lodge, No. 306, I. O. O. F. Postoffice, Thayer. He was married in Indiana to Susan Reasoner, a native of that State, and they became the parents of four children—Charles, John, William and Benton. Mrs. Olinger died in 1879, and Mr. Olinger, for a second wife, married Caroline McKimpson. They are the parents of one child—Clarence. Squire Olinger has resided in Union County for fifteen years.

HENRY C. NEIS, farmer and stock-raiser, Dodge Township, residing on section 19, is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, born March 13, 1844. His father, Simon Neis, who was also a native of the same place, brought his family to America in 1851, and first located in Bureau County, Illinois. In 1854 he removed to La Salle County, Illinois, remaining there till 1856. He then went to Lee County, Illinois, and in 1866 removed to Livingston County, Missouri, where he lived till his death, in 1879. Henry C. Neis grew to manhood in Lee County, remaining there till March, 1884. He was married in June, 1865, to Miss Elizabeth Weber, a daughter of Adam Weber, who is deceased. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Neis, of whom eight still survive—Philip, Henry, Katie, John, Lena, George, Theresa and Dora. In March, 1884, Mr. Neis came to Union County, Iowa, and soon after settled on his present farm, where he has 320 acres of choice land. He has an imported thoroughbred Norman horse weighing 1,800 lbs., whose sire took the first medal at the Paris Centennial Exposition in 1878, and also the first prize at St. Louis in 1880. In his religious faith Mr. Neis is a Roman Catholic.

W. K. BALL, architect, was born in Chautauqua County, New York, May 10, 1830, of parents who were natives of New Hampshire. His life up to the age of seventeen years was passed on the home farm and at school, after which he learned the trade of house carpenter, and for several years followed this occupation. He moved to Rockford, Illinois, in 1855, where, by an unfortunate fall from a building, he was seriously injured and crippled, and after a partial recovery he entered the architectural office of Stromp & House, where he developed a taste for drawing and planning, and for many years was occupied in contracting and building at various towns in Northern Illinois. In 1869, having planned a prominent building for Selma, Alabama, he went there to superintend its construction, and finding a demand for architectural work remained South until 1875, and was occupied in rebuilding Selma and other adjoining towns which were destroyed during the war; the last building upon which he was engaged there being the court-house and jail, at Bir-

mingham, Alabama. The panic of 1873 having paralyzed the iron interest, and building improvements not being in demand, he came to Iowa, and located in Creston, in 1875, where he has planned and superintended the building of most of the prominent buildings in Creston and adjoining towns in this section of Iowa. He was married in March, 1860, to Miss Emily C. Lane, of Bristol, Illinois. They have two children—Frank D., who is cashier of the First National Bank of Creston, and Fred E., who is an employe of the same institution.

GEORGE W. HART, farmer and stock-raiser, section 8, Dodge Township, was born in Cumberland County, Illinois, December 31, 1844, a son of William Hart, who was a native of Pennsylvania. The parents came with their family to Iowa in 1851, and settled in Wapello County, where the father died in the fall of 1855. The mother came to Union County in 1860, making her home in New Hope Township. George W. Hart was a mere boy when he was brought by his parents to Iowa, and in this State he was reared on a farm, receiving his education in the common and graded schools of Ottumwa, Wapello County. He enlisted in the late war of the Rebellion in Company I, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, and participated in a number of engagements, including battles of Vicksburg, Selma, Ebenezer Church and Columbus, remaining in the service three years and nine months. He was married December 31, 1868, to Miss Rebecca E. Tresler, a daughter of James Tresler, who is deceased. Six of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hart are living, their names being—John M., Charles E., Alice A., Ella J., George W., and Ruth. Mr. Hart came to Dodge Township in the spring of 1870, where he has since made his home, having now a fine farm containing 375 acres of well-cultivated land. Since coming to Dodge Township Mr. Hart has served acceptably as trustee, beside holding other local offices. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

LEWELLYN RAGUET was born in Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio, July 20, 1829. His father, James Raguet, was a native of New Jersey, and a son of Francis Raguet, who was born in France, and came to America during the Revolutionary war, serving as a Surgeon in the American army, and settled in New Jersey. James Raguet settled in Ohio early in life, remaining there until his decease. The mother of our subject was born in Virginia. He was the fourth of a family of five children. He was reared in his native village, and received as good an education as the select schools of the town afforded, the public school system not having been established. Early in life he conceived the idea of obtaining a military education, and at the age of sixteen years an application was made through Senator Vance, of Ohio, for his admission to the military school at West Point as a cadet; but before the time necessary to accomplish this result had expired, the war with Mexico broke out, and, through the influence of Senator Vance, he was appointed by President Polk to a Lieutenancy in a regiment of Mounted Rifles. He was probably the youngest commissioned officer in the United States Army. He proceeded to Mexico with his regiment, and participated in the bombardment of Vera Cruz and in the battle of Cerro Gordo. About this time, for reasons sufficient to justify his cause, he tendered his resignation, which was accepted, and he returned home. But his aspirations had not yet been fully realized. March 17, 1848, he again entered the army as Orderly-Sergeant of the Fifth United States Infantry, and proceeded with his regiment to Vera Cruz; but there he learned of the capture of the City of Mexico by the army under

General Scott. The close of the war immediately followed that event, and Mr. Raguet again returned to his home in Ohio. He now turned his attention to the printing and publishing business, and assisted in establishing *The National*, a weekly publication, at Mt. Vernon, Ohio. He continued to reside in Ohio until 1858, when he came to Iowa and established a paper, known as the Corning *Sentinel*, at Corning, Adams County. The history of the Afton *Reveille*, established by Mr. Raguet, which was devoted to the upbuilding of the material interests of Union County, will be found elsewhere in this work. He established the Boone County *Democrat*, which he published three years, then returned to Afton and engaged in the mercantile business in which he still continues. Of him it may be said, that, as a newspaper man, he was a forcible, able and independent writer, and his paper, the *Reveille*, did much toward promoting the interests of his county. As a citizen, he is wide-awake and public-spirited, and prompt to endorse any enterprise he believes is for the best interests of the people. In politics he is a Democrat of the Jacksonian type; religiously his church would include all who strive to do their duty as they see it, independent of creeds and doctrines. In natural ability he is much beyond the average. Mrs. Raguet was formerly Miss Carrie Hadley, a native of Ohio. They have three children—Ella, Mrs. Carrie Vicks and Sadie May Glass. Two sons died in infancy.

MOSES F. HAYNES, an enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Lincoln Township, living on section 3, was born in Frederick County, Maryland, May 9, 1835, his father being a native of Washington County, Maryland. The father of our subject was a mechanic, and he learned the cooper's trade when a young man, which he followed till thirty years of age. He was reared to manhood in his native State, and was there married, in April, 1857, to Miss Sarah Westler, a daughter of Joseph Westler, who is now living in Cass County, Indiana. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Haynes, six still living, named Alice M., Ida E., Mary V., Walter E., Nellie F. and Daisy M. Mr. Haynes settled in Preble County, Ohio, in 1861, remaining there till 1868, when he removed to Peoria County, Illinois. He came to Union County, Iowa, in 1876, and has since made his home in Lincoln Township, where he owns a fine farm, which contains 160 acres of land under cultivation. Mr. Haynes is one of the active and public-spirited citizens of his township, and takes an interest in every enterprise which he deems of public benefit. He has served as justice of the peace one term, to the satisfaction of his constituents.

E. WIDGER, a farmer and stock-raiser of Douglas Township, resides on section 17, where he owns 120 acres of land, all under cultivation. He was born in Ohio, in 1833, the son of Charles B. and Sarah (Jennings) Widger, of Scotch and English ancestry. He was eight years of age when his parents immigrated with him to this country, first residing in Fulton County, Illinois, for five years, and then removed to Van Buren County, Iowa. Mr. Widger, who was brought up to the vocation of agriculture, lived in Illinois twenty years, and then, in 1875, came to Union County, settling upon his present place, which was known as the "Old Lytle Farm." Here he has made all he possesses by his own efforts. He was a member of the Free-Will Baptist church for thirty years, and for a portion of the time a "local minister" of the same; but he is now a minister in the Congregational church, to which denomination Mrs. Widger also belongs. Mr. Widger is considered a consistent

man, practicing what he preaches. As to local offices, he has served as school director. He was married in Fulton County, Illinois, in 1857, to Phebe Morris, who was born in Pennsylvania, in 1830, the daughter of Mordecai and Susanna Morris, natives of New Jersey and Maryland respectively. They have seven children—William H.; Susan, wife of Edward Stalker, has three children—Charles E., Jennie M. and James H.; Clara, now the wife of William Kinkade, has three children—Amanda A., Elmer E. and Harvey W.; the other children of Mr. and Mrs. Widger are—Charles M., Alice, Eva and Asa C. Postoffice, Cromwell.

DAVID WOOLEY is one of the pioneers of Creston, having settled here January 15, 1870. He purchased lots and erected several buildings, which he still owns and rents. He has not been engaged in any general business, preferring to lend his money rather than engage in more active business. Mr. Wooley was born in Ripley County, Indiana, in 1824. His father, James Wooley, moved to Jefferson County when David was eight years old. In 1860 he came to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, thence to Creston. William Wooley, an elder brother, came to Iowa in 1843, and settled in Washington County, where he died July 3, 1885. Our subject is now the only representative of his father's family residing in Iowa. He is unmarried.

DR. JOSEPH T. BEEBE, of Afton, was born in Knox County, Ohio, June 27, 1821, son of John and Elizabeth (Talmage) Beebe. His early life was passed in working upon his father's farm during the summer and in attending school during the winter. When seventeen years of age he became a student of De Witt Academy, where he remained about seven months, and from that time he turned his attention to farming during the summer and teaching in winter, beginning, also, a preparatory course in the study of medicine. He subsequently read medicine in the office with Dr. Page, of Delaware County, Iowa, with whom he remained until 1843, when he went to Cincinnati as a student at the Ohio Medical College of that city. Upon completing his course at the college, he removed to Columbia City, Indiana, where he entered upon the practice of his profession. When he left Cincinnati he owed $50 tuition fee. He traveled to St. Mary's by stage, from which place, with less than $3 in his pocket, he began his walk to Columbia City. When he reached his destination, a distance of sixty miles, his finances had become reduced to 31 cents, and he was a total stranger to all. He stopped at a hotel, and the next day he made the acquaintance of one or two brother Methodists, to whom he expressed the desire to settle in the place and practice his profession, but said nothing of his financial embarrassment. Receiving encouragement from them he returned to the hotel and then started for the home of a cousin by marriage, living about twenty-five miles distant. He spent 25 cents of his capital for food, and begged his last meal at a farm house. He finally reached the home of his cousin, to whom he related his story. The cousin kindly furnished him with a horse and $10 in money, and after resting a day or two, he rode back to the hotel. He continued to board at the hotel, and at once commenced a lucrative practice. This was in March, 1845. The following November he returned to Knox County, Ohio, where he remained four weeks, and in the meantime married Miss Philena Helt, of Sparta. Her father removed then to Columbia City, and the young couple immediately began housekeeping. They remained here until 1847, when Mrs. Beebe's health failed and they decided to remove to Mt. Gilead, where the doctor bought property and

commenced practice. He remained at this place seventeen years, during which time they had born to them two sons and a daughter. Though enjoying a good practice at Mt. Gilead, the doctor decided to situate himself so as to advance the interests of his children, and with this end in view, he, with seven other families, determined to go to Iowa. They were thirty-two days on the road, camping out at night. Afton was then 100 miles from any railroad. The doctor purchased 200 acres of land near Afton, which he commenced at once to improve. In January, 1865, he bought a half interest in the drug store of Dr. Roberts at Afton, and later he purchased the remaining interest of Dr. Roberts. In the spring of 1866 he had built and occupied his new home on the farm, intending to retire from medical practice, having sold the drug store the preceding winter. In the following October he had an opportunity to sell his farm advantageously. He improved the opportunity and removed to Brookfield, a division station on the Hannibal & St. Joe Railroad. Then he engaged in the drug business again with his former partner, Dr. Roberts, and also resumed his practice. In 1868 he returned to Afton, bought out a drug store, built a residence, and erected a business block. At the breaking out of the civil war Dr. Beebe was among the first to enlist as a private; but he was soon detached from the ranks and placed on the medical staff. In May, 1875, it was largely through his efforts that the First National Bank of Afton was organized, and in January, 1876, he was made its president, and was re-elected the following year. He has several times been elected to the city council, and has always taken a deep interest in the cause of popular education. He is an active member of the Methodist church. Himself and wife have been members forty years. Dr. Beebe is the present mayor of Afton, and has held that position several years. Dr. and Mrs. Beebe have three children—Lyman C. is a traveling salesmen for the H. P. Clark Drug Company, of Omaha. J. Wilbur owns the city bakery at North Platte, Nebraska. The eldest, Livonia, is the wife of I. N. Rice, a dealer in musical instruments at Des Moines. Dr. Beebe's father, John Beebe, was born in New London, Connecticut, and removed from Ohio to the State of New York in 1817. He lived in Ohio until his death, which occurred in 1857. His wife died at Afton in 1867. There were five children in the family, three sons and two daughters, of whom the doctor was the eldest. John Helt, the father of Mrs. Beebe, was one of the first settlers of Bloomfield Township, Knox County, Ohio. After the death of his first wife he re-married, and the lady whom he married became the mother of Mrs. Beebe. He lived in Knox County at the time of his death, although he had passed one year at Afton and vicinity with his children; but he returned to his old home in Ohio to die.

PERRY W. MILLER, section 35, Grant Township, was born in Muscatine, Iowa, December 23, 1854, a son of John H. Miller. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1806, and in 1836 immigrated to Muscatine, Iowa, being one of the pioneers of the State. His daughter Mary (now Mrs. Cross) was the first white child born in Muscatine. Perry W. was reared and educated in his native town, and after leaving school taught eight years, four years being in Harrison County, Missouri, and four years in Union County, Iowa. He came to Union County in 1876, and settled on section 27, Grant Township, where he improved a farm of 160 acres. In 1881 he located on the farm where he now lives, which at that time was wild land. He has improved his land, and now has a fine farm of 160 acres, and his farm buildings are among the best in the township. For the past six years he has run a threshing machine, and

has assisted many of the neighboring farmers. He was married in April, 1877, to Adella Simpson, daughter of Henry Simpson, of Muscatine, Iowa. They have four children—Nellie, Frank, Arthur and Roy. Mr. Miller and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

J. H. LICHTY, dealer in groceries and provisions, located on the corner of Montgomery and Walnut streets, Creston, Iowa, is a native of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, born November 29, 1829, a son of Jacob and Catherine (Hunter) Lichty, the former a native of Pennsylvania, of German descent, and the latter of Maryland, of Scotch descent. The mother died in 1858, aged fifty-seven years, and the father in 1863, aged sixty-five years. They had a family of eight children—Edward is a physician, a graduate of the Philadelphia Medical College; Lewis is an attorney, and ex-mayor of Waterloo, Iowa; J. H. is our subject; Ezra is a machinist and is employed at the round-house in Creston; Silas is an agriculturist of Somerset County, Pennsylvania; Joseph lives in Lincoln, Nebraska; Mary, the eldest daughter, is the wife of F. B. Countryman, of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and Louisa is the wife of S. A. Benford, of Page County, Iowa. J. H. Lichty was reared a farmer, a vocation he followed in his native State until 1868, when he came to Iowa, and first located in Waterloo. He also worked at the carpenter's trade several years, and by economy saved $1,500, which he put in the bank. The bank suspended payment, and he got only 28 cents on the dollar of his money. In 1876 he moved to Creston and embarked in business. Although his capital was limited he went bravely to work, and by good management and honorable dealing he has been successful. In all his ups and downs he has been assisted by his most estimable wife, who has been a true helpmeet in every hour of trial, taking her full share of the business. Together they have acquired a competency and a good home for their declining years. Mr. Lichty was married in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, to Mary A. Felick, a native of that county, born in 1832. She died in 1867, leaving four children—George E. F., of Waterloo, married Anna Derrick; Benjamin, married Josie Burr; Anna, wife of Johnson Vivian, of Michigan; Lottie, who makes her home with George. One child, Lizzie, is deceased. In 1870 Mr. Lichty married Clara E. Countryman, also a native of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, born in 1842. To them have been born four children—Franklin B., Elvira, Edward and Howard. Mr. and Mrs. Lichty are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he is a Republican.

JOHN H. BROWN, farmer and stock-raiser, has a whole section (No. 9, Douglas Township) of good and well-improved land, where he resides. He was born in Scotland, in 1834, his parents being Robert and Jennett (Hamilton) Brown, both natives of the "Land o' Cakes." He was about eighteen years of age when he came with his parents to America. They settled in Stark County, Ohio, and followed farming there several years, removing to Henry County, Illinois, and thence to Rock Island County. He came to Iowa and settled on his present place in Douglas Township, in 1869. Here he had first bought a quarter-section of wild land, and proceeded to improve it. His fine dwelling-house he erected in 1883 at an expense of $3,000, and his barn, built in 1872, cost $2,600. On the place, too, he has a fine grove of trees and an orchard of three acres, and 240 acres in pasture or grass. Mr. Brown has held the offices of supervisor and school director. The habits of honest industry, which

have brought him up to his present high position in the community, were formed in his youth, when he mined coal and iron ore, which he did until he was twenty-six years of age. Neither himself nor his wife inherited any property with which to launch out in the sea of life. He is a member of Cromwell Lodge, No. 354, A. F. & A. M. Both himself and wife are members of the Congregational church. He was married in Stark County, Ohio, in 1856, to Mary A. Murphy, who was born in Ireland, in 1837. The following of their children are living—James, Maria, Minnie, Thomas, Jernett, Jeremiah, Mary A., Richard, Henry, Olga and Howard. The deceased were Robert and Anna. Post-office, Cromwell.

REV. WILLIAM C. WILLIAMS is a native of Ohio, born where the city of Urbana now stands, in Champaign County, November 24, 1824, a son of William Williams, who was one of the early settlers of Ohio, and was a soldier in the war of 1812. William C. Williams grew to manhood in his native State, being reared on a farm and educated in the common schools. He came to Iowa in 1845, locating in Marion County, where he lived several years. He was married in the fall of 1847, to Jemima Camplin, a daughter of John Camplin, deceased. To this union were born eight children—Sarah, John, Henry, Benjamin F., Simon, Cora, Newton and Anna. Mr. Williams came to Union County in June, 1855, where he has since made his home, and is now the owner of 120 acres located on section 7, New Hope Township, where he settled in 1861. He was licensed as a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church in 1853, and the following four years traveled as an itinerant through Marion, Ringgold and Union counties. He was ordained a regular minister in 1857, and two years later again began traveling through the country. He is now devoting his attention to farming and stock-raising, yet at times fills the pulpit as a local preacher. He is one of the old pioneers of Southern Iowa, and at one time mowed grass where Knoxville now stands. He was engaged in selling goods in Marion County for four years, and intended to follow the same business at Afton, Union County, but through the perfidy of his partner he became bankrupt; but through his persevering industry and strict economy he has mastered his difficulties, and is to-day in comfortable circumstances. Besides his home farm he owned other property, but has given to his children 160 acres. He has been an active worker in church affairs for many years, and built the church of his denomination at Afton. He has held several local offices of trust in the township, including justice of the peace, trustee, supervisor, and, while living in Afton, was a member of the School Board.

HIRAM HALL, of Creston, keeps a full stock of paints, wall-paper, window-glass and painters' supplies; also makes a specialty of decorating churches and other public buildings. He is located at 210 North Maple Street. Mr. Hall is the oldest resident painter in Union County, settling in Afton as early as 1858. He was born in Genesee County, New York, in July, 1836. In 1842 his parents removed to Genesee County, Michigan, where he lived until eighteen years of age. He learned the painter's trade at East Saginaw, Michigan, and has been engaged in that business thirty-four years. In 1853 his father, Hiram Hall, removed with his family to Scott County, Iowa, and later to Louisa County, where he died in February, 1861. The mother is still living in Louisa County. There were twelve children in the family who grew to maturity, eight sons and four daughters. Hiram went to Davenport in 1854, where he worked at his trade for a time, then

went to Washington, Iowa, and worked three years, coming to Afton in 1858. In August, 1862, he enlisted at Afton in the Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and served three years, his regiment being attached to the Western Army. In 1872 he went to Decatur, Indiana, and remained there and at Fort Wayne for five years, then located at Mt. Ayr one year, coming to Creston in 1878, and at present he is living on his farm, four miles west of Creston, running a milk dairy. He married Harriet Harper, a native of Indiana, and they have six children—Fred S., Hiram A. and Mary A. (twins), Charles R., James A. and Addie. Hiram and Mary were born in May, 1863, while Mr. Hall lay sick in the hospital in Helena, Arkansas, and he did not see them until they were two years and a half old.

JOHN K. EWING, farmer and stock-raiser, section 14, Grant Township, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Perry County, October 30, 1843, a son of Clark G. Ewing. In 1846 his parents moved to La Salle County, Illinois, where the mother died in 1847, and the father in 1850. Thus, when but seven years of age, he was left an orphan with three sisters and one brother, and was obliged to work for his own maintenance. After the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion, in the spring of 1861, he enlisted in Company A, First Illinois Cavalry, and served until the following fall, when his regiment was reorganized, but disbanded in July, 1862. He was then at home a month, when he again enlisted and was assigned to Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry, and served until June, 1865. He participated in the battles at Lexington, Tompkinsville, Hartsville, Gallatin, Brentwood, Elk River, Tullahoma, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Ringgold, Tunnel Hill, Buzzard's Roost Gap, Resaca and others of minor importance. At Lexington he received a flesh wound, and at Chickamauga he was severely wounded in the hip. At Buzzard's Roost he was one of a company to cross the gap and open an attack on the enemy's battery. From Kenesaw Mountain he was sent to the rear, and was detailed receiving clerk in the ordnance department of Gen. Thomas's headquarters. In the spring of 1865 he returned to his regiment, but was subsequently detailed clerk in the Assistant Adjutant-General's office, where he remained until the close of the war. After his discharge he returned to Illinois, and in 1879 came to Iowa, and located on section 10, Grant Township, Union County, where he lived until the spring of 1885, when he moved to the farm where he now lives, which contains 160 acres of valuable land, well stocked with a fine grade of short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Ewing was married February 17, 1869, to Amelia E., daughter of Hugh Alexander. They have six children—Mabel, Herbert, Milo, Rose, Arthur and an infant daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Ewing are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

TRUE W. GILMAN, an industrious farmer, and a respected citizen of Highland Township, living on section 18, is a native of the State of New York, born in Oneida County, April 20, 1828, a son of Charles and Eunice (Markham) Gilman, both of whom died before our subject was eight years old. He was a native of New Hampshire. Our subject grew to manhood in his native county, being reared on a farm and educated in the common schools. He was married to Miss Rosetta C. Tennant, August 17, 1854, she being a daughter of Hiram and Emily (Main) Tennant, both of whom are deceased. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gilman, two still living, whose names are Charles and Dora, the former living

in Colorado, and the latter engaged in teaching school in Union County, where she is fast becoming a popular teacher. Mr. Gilman left his native county in 1856, going with his family to Knox County, Illinois. He went to California, where he remained till 1869, then he located in Warren County, Illinois, where he lived till 1872. In that year he came to Union County, Iowa, and has since resided on his present farm, which contains 168 acres of choice land, and is engaged in farming and stock-raising.

COLONEL S. D. SWAN, proprietor of the Summit House at Creston, is one of the earliest settlers of the town. January 15, 1870, he opened the Creston House, the first hotel of the city, and he was ticket agent of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad four or five years. Later he was engaged in the building of the Santa Fe Railroad in Mexico. Upon completion of the Summit House in 1880, Colonel Swan and his son-in-law, John Becker, became the proprietors, and they still conduct this deservedly popular hotel. Colonel Swan was born in Virginia in 1832, and was reared in Uniontown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. He has been a resident of Iowa many years. On the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion he was a resident of Mt. Pleasant. In May, 1861, he raised a company for service in the army. Of this company, which became a part of the First Iowa Cavalry, he was made Captain, but before the regiment was ready to take the field Colonel A. B. Potter, who had participated in the battle of Wilson's Creek, where the gallant Lyon fell, had received orders to raise a regiment, and he induced Colonel Swan to assist him, who at once engaged in raising men for a new organization. He met with such success that in ten days he had raised a full company. The regiment was organized as the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, and Colonel Swan was elected Major. June 4, 1862, he was made Lieutenant-Colonel. In the summer of 1863 he tendered his resignation on account of ill-health, and about the same time he was commissioned Colonel of the regiment. But his resignation went into effect and he did not serve under his commission as Colonel. He participated with his regiment in most of the important events of the West and South that attended the war for the Union, in those sections. After the war he was engaged in farming, railroading and hotel-keeping, the latter being his present occupation. Colonel Swan was married in Pennsylvania, in 1851, to Dorcas Ayers. They have four children—William, Ella May, wife of John Becker; Dora Belle and Florence. Colonel Swan was left an orphan at an early age, his mother dying when he was a small child, and when he was thirteen years old his father died. He was thus compelled to make his own way in life at an age when he most needed the parental care and advice. He was a gallant soldier, and his health was much impaired by his service in the army. Whatever duties in life he has been called upon to perform have been done faithfully and well.

DANIEL EVANS, deceased, was a native of Wales, born April 18, 1815, a son of Thomas Evans, who was also a native of the same country. When he was seventeen years old his father brought his family to America, and settled in Licking County, Ohio. In 1840 our subject, Daniel Evans, located in Knox County, Illinois, where he remained over ten years. He was married March 22, 1847, to Miss Sarah J. Richardson, a daughter of Larkin Richardson, who died when she was very young. Mrs. Evans was born in Harr County, Kentucky, and when but four years old was brought by her widowed mother to Knox County, Illinois, where she

was reared. Mr. and Mrs. Evans have had seven children born to them, of whom only three are now living—Nancy L., Permelia Ann and Albert R. Nancy married Edgar Hayden, and has two children—Clara B. and Nellie M. They live on the old homestead with Mrs. Evans. Ann Amelia, as the second daughter is called, is the wife of George S. Hayden, of Adair County, Iowa, and has one son—Harry E. Mr. Evans left Knox County for Henry County, Illinois, about 1851, where he remained till 1875. In the spring of that year he went to Adair County, Iowa, and in the following fall came to Union County, where he engaged in farming. He was reared a farmer, and always followed that avocation, and died on his farm on section 2, Lincoln Township, April 8, 1885. He was a consistent Christian, a member of the Evangelical Association, and gave liberally of his means to the support of the Gospel and to benevolent institutions. He was a kind husband and an affectionate father. Strictly honorable in all his dealings, he gained the confidence of all who knew him, and his death caused universal regret throughout the township where he had made his home since coming to Union County.

S. R. COTTON, of the firm of Scurr & Cotton, proprietors of the First National Grocery, 128 Pine Street, Creston, was born in Circleville, Ohio, June 2, 1859, being the son of L. M. and Elizabeth (Risser) Cotton, natives of Pennsylvania and Germany respectively. He was three months old when his parents moved to Kentucky, and after seven years' residence there they removed to Dallas County, Iowa, and in 1883 to Union County. Mr. Cotton, who has generally been a clerk, either in a store or a bank, entered the grocery here in 1884, having come to Creston in 1882. His stock, valued at about $8,000 to $9,000, comprises fancy and staple groceries, queensware, glassware, etc.—a well selected stock—and his sales per year amount to $60,000 or $70,000. He keeps five employes, running two delivery wagons, and a branch store at Spaulding, managed by F. D. Williams. He also owns a quarter-section of land in Kansas. Mr. Cotton had but little means with which to commence in business, and his success therefore is a signal testimonial to his financial capacities. He is classed as a solid and influential citizen of Creston, and is socially a gentleman. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Working Mechanics.

D. W. HIGBEE, attorney, located in Creston, August 19, 1876. He formed a partnership with J. B. Harsh, Esq., which continued until the fall of 1883, when Mr. Harsh retired from the law business. Mr. Higbee practiced alone about two years and then the present firm of Higbee & Hanna was formed. Mr. Higbee was born in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, in 1845. In 1853, his father, Obediah Higbee, emigrated with his family to Johnson County, Iowa, and located on a farm near Iowa City, where he still lives. His place bears the name of Hickory Grove. In 1860 Mr. Higbee entered the State University, the same year the university was opened, and he was a member of the first class that was organized. He remained three years as a student, and in the fall of 1864 he began the study of law in the law department of the Michigan State University, at Ann Arbor. He remained six months, then entered the law office of Rush Clark, at Iowa City, where he remained as a student until the spring of 1867, then engaged in business at Chicago. He was in active business in that city until 1875. He sustained a severe loss in the fire of 1871. Dearborn Theater, that was burned at that time, was built by Mr. Higbee. Since coming to Creston he has been one of the leading men of

D. W. Higbee

the city, and has done much toward advancing its interests. The Chicago fire had taken from him the accumulation of former years, and here, in this new town of Creston he began anew, and his success has been commensurate with his energy and perseverance. He has dealt considerably in real estate, and his investments in that direction have been profitable. There are two additions to Creston known as Higbee and Baker's addition, and Higbee and Baker's second addition. Mr. Higbee has erected sixteen houses in the city and sold them. He was married in Johnson County in 1875, to Miss Emma A. Evans, daughter of W. C. Evans, formerly of Johnson County and now a resident of Creston. Mr. and Mrs. Higbee have no children, but have an adopted daughter—Leila. Politically Mr. Higbee is a Democrat.

J. S. LAFARRE, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 16, of Jones Township, where he owns 600 acres of land, in an advanced state of cultivation. He was born in Washington County, Indiana, in 1820, the son of Jacob B. and Lydia (Snyder) Lafarre, natives of Kentucky, and of French descent. Mr. Lafarre passed his boyhood and youth upon a farm in Morgan County, Indiana, being reared to the agriculturist's occupation. He came to Union County in 1855, entered land, and settled here the following year. During this latter year, in Warren, Union County, he married Sarah Ledema, who was born in Indiana in 1826, the daughter of William and Achsa Ledema, and now Mr. and Mrs. Lafarre are the parents of six children, four of whom are living—Lydia, Catharine, Jacob B. and Jane. Jacob B. married Leone Power, and they have one child—George by name. Jane married Thomas Clark, and their three children are, Emma, George and Addie. Mr. Lafarre was postmaster at Thayer eight years, a part of the time under President Grant's administration. He made his start in the world with nothing but one horse as his total amount of property, and worked by the month at $25. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and politically he affiliates with the National Greenback party. He is highly respected in his community. Postoffice, Thayer.

EDWIN J. BUSH, vice-president of the First National Bank of Creston, is one of the early settlers of the town, making his advent here in 1872. For several years he was engaged buying grain, first for George A. Blackwell, one of the early grain merchants of Creston. In 1873 Mr. Blackwell sold out to Messrs. Belden & Scott, with whom Mr. Bush continued until 1879, when he engaged as assistant cashier of the Creston Bank. In September, 1884, the above was incorporated as a State bank, and Mr. Bush was made its cashier. In July, 1886, this bank consolidated with the First National Bank, and Mr. Bush was made vice-president. He was born in Connecticut in 1852, son of William Bush. In 1872 he went to Chicago, and came to Creston in August of that year. He was married December 12, 1883, to Miss Kate Dowd.

ABRAM W. ENOCH, attorney and counselor at law, Afton, also the present city attorney, has been in practice at this place since March, 1878, and has been alone with the exception of one year when he was associated with S. W. McElderry. He was born in the town of Rising Sun, Ohio County, Indiana, in March, 1855. When thirteen years of age he removed with his father, Benjamin Enoch, to Hancock County, Illinois. His mother having died previous to that time. The father is now a resident of Fairmont, Missouri. Mr. Enoch was edu-

cated principally in the public schools; later he was a student at Keokuk two years. In 1873 he commenced to study law, and began practice in 1877 at Springfield, Illinois. Subsequent to his admission to the bar he was engaged in teaching for a time before entering into the practice of his profession. He is a lawyer of more than average attainments, of fine ability, and, though a young man, has a good practice, even thomgh older and excellent lawyers have long occupied the field. He was married December 29, 1880, to Miss Emma M. Bagg, daughter of Ralph Bagg, of Afton. They have one child—Albert Blaine.

GEORGE W. McGINNIS, section 3, Highland Township, was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, January 8, 1832, a son of Robert McGinnis, a native of the same county, and grandson of Daniel McGinnis, a native of Ireland. He was reared and educated in his native county, spending his youth on his father's farm. In April, 1854, he came to Iowa, and located in Lee County, and in the spring of 1855 walked to Union County, a distance of over 200 miles, to pay his taxes, and walked back again the same spring. In April, 1858, he moved to Union County, and located on the land which is now his fine farm. At that time it was a tract of wild land with but one house in sight. The country was infested with Indians and wild animals, who were frequent visitors, and partakers of his bounty. Mr. McGinnis was an industrious, energetic man, and soon got his land under cultivation, and gradually improved it until he now has one of the pleasantest homes in the county. He has added to his possessions until he now owns, in addition to the homestead of 120 acres, 480 acres in Nebraska and 320 acres in Colorado. He was married in the spring of 1854, to Margaret V. Trimble, daughter of David Trimble, of Fayette County, Pennsylvania. To them have been born twelve children—Thomas J., Albert M., Robert L., George W., William B., Jasper M., Minor M., David H., Joseph C., Annie J., Selma P. and Ida. Mr. McGinnis is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

R. H. HANNA, of the law firm of Higbee & Hanna, came from Louisa County to Creston in 1882. He was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, June 3, 1840, and was reared in Harrison County. In 1861 he enlisted at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in the Eighth Pennsylvania Reserves. He was in the army about a year, during which time he participated in the battle of Dranesville, Virginia. He was discharged, by special order of Secretary Stanton, whom he met in Washington, for disability. His health was poor for several years after his discharge from the service. For a time he attended the law department of the Michigan State University, but his failing health would not admit of a full course. In 1868 he came to Louisa County, and was engaged in the practice of law at Columbus Junction until he came to Creston. Mr. Hanna was first married in Ohio, to Miss Sarah Cramflatt, after whose death he married Miss H. M. Segafoos, who died February 17, 1879. Politically Mr. Hanna is a Republican.

H. BATTAN, agriculturist and stock-raiser, is a resident of section 9, Douglas Township. Postoffice, Creston. He was born in Fulton County, Pennsylvania, in 1833. His parents, Thomas and Catherine (Harn) Battan, were also natives of that State. In 1856, when he was twenty-three years of age, he immigrated to Tazewell County, Illinois, where he resided until 1870. In 1864 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-second

Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served till the close of the war. He started out to brave the sea of life single-handed and alone, but by his well-directed industry he has established for himself and family a comfortable home. His well-improved farm comprises 160 acres. He has been township supervisor and school director, is a member of the Masonic order, and is considered a substantial citizen of Union County. He and his family belong to the Congregational church. He was married in 1860, in Tazewell County, Illinois, to Miss Tensy Tobee, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Tobee, who was born in Canada, April 11, 1841. Of their ten children, six are living—Richard H., Maurice, Catherine, Boyle, Allen J., overseer of round-house at Kansas City, and Samuel W.

WILLIAM K. SYP, a prominent merchant of Afton, has been a resident of that city since the fall of 1857. He was born in Miami County, Ohio, March 30, 1833, son of John and Mary Ann Logan. On his father's side he is of German origin. His great-grandfather Syp came to America in an early day, probably about 1690, and settled in Pennsylvania. His grandfather, Joseph Syp, emigrated from Pennsylvania to Hamilton County, Ohio, not far from 100 years ago. It is stated as a fact that his first wife was once offered fifty acres of the present site of Cincinnati for the paltry sum of $50. Joseph Syp was twice married and had fifteen children. He removed to Miami County about the year 1820, and died at the advanced age of 110 years. He was an active farmer until he was eighty-five years of age. John Syp, the father of our subject, was born in Warren County, Ohio, in 1807. He was reared a farmer and followed that occupation until he was sixty-five years of age. He then engaged in merchandising, and died at Afton April 25, 1884, in his seventy-eighth year. He immigrated with his family to Henry County, Iowa, in 1852, and to Union County in 1864. He had twelve children, seven sons and five daughters. Four of the children died in childhood; five are now living—James L., a farmer of Union County; Joseph F., a resident of Afton; William K., our subject; David N., a hardware merchant at Afton, and Mrs. Martha Johnson, residing in Kansas. William K. is the youngest, and remained at home upon his father's farm until about twenty years of age. His educational advantages were very limited; his entire attendance at school would not exceed three months. When seventeen years of age he requested his father to grant him the means for acquiring a collegiate education, but the request was not complied with. The reason given for the refusal was that he could not be spared from the farm. At the age of nineteen years his father offered him means to educate himself with, but William refused it, giving as a reason that he was too old. He has ever since deeply regretted that he did not embrace that opportunity; in fact, he regards it as the greatest mistake of his life. His aspiration, in early life, was to be an attorney, and especially did he desire to become an orator. He possesses many of the qualities requisite for a successful public speaker, but his ambition could not be realized, and at the age of twenty years decided to turn his attention to mechanical pursuits. He apprenticed himself to a blacksmith at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, for a term of three years. His compensation was to be 8 cents per day, board and washing. He remained with the blacksmith six months, when, finding the work too hard, and his health likely to become seriously impaired in consequence, he decided to bring his apprenticeship to a close. His employer, John Campbell, accepted his resignation very reluctantly, allowing him the munificent sum of 5 cents a day for the time he had worked, amounting to $7.80.

The generosity of Mr. Campbell becomes evident when it is considered that Mr. Syp did more than half the labor performed in the shop during his stay. Mr. Syp then decided to learn the carpenter's trade, and engaged with a man named Strong for 50 cents a day, board and washing. No definite time for the apprenticeship was mentioned in the engagement. At the end of six months Mr. Syp demanded an increase of wages to $1.00 per day. His employer at first refused, but finally decided to give him the increase asked for. At the expiration of three months more his wages were raised to $1.50 per day. Then for another three months he received $2.00 per day. Mr. Syp and his brother, J. F. Syp, then decided to come to Afton, but stopped at Osceola and worked at the carpenter and joiner's trade. In the fall of 1855 they came to Afton to attend the second public sale of lots. Mr. Syp purchased the lot just west of the Presbyterian church. He returned to Mt. Pleasant, then in 1857 came back and settled permanently. For twelve years he was engaged as contractor and builder, and for several years he erected and completed from forty to forty-five buildings annually, his field of labor comprising a territory within a radius of twenty miles of Afton. He was very successful in his career as a builder. Six months previous to the expiration of the twelve years he decided that when a favorable opportunity offered he would change his business. In 1869 he engaged in the mercantile business at Afton under the firm name of Hemenway, Wheeler & Company. Mr. Syp was the company and the capitalist of the firm. After a period of fourteen months Mr. Syp purchased the interest of his partners, and one week later took Robert Truman as a partner, who is now the —— of Afton. Six months later this partnership was dissolved by Mr. Truman's retiring from the business, and George Swain became a partner, buying a one-third interest. About one year later D. N. Syp became a member of the firm, and two years afterward William K. Syp purchased Mr. Swain's interest in the business, and Truman Swain joined the firm. In another year Mr. Syp purchased his brother's interest, owing to the poor health of the latter, and the firm name which had been W. K. Syp & Company, now became Syp & Swain, the former having a two-thirds interest in the business. One year later this firm purchased a stock of goods in Farragut, Iowa, of which Swain took charge. After six months the stock was removed to Bedford, Iowa, and in another year the firm closed out the branch store. Two years afterward W. K. Syp sold out to Swain Brothers, as his health began to fail, and took a trip to California, where he remained about three months. In January, 1883, he re-engaged in business with Swain Brothers under the firm name of Swain Brothers & Syp. Three years later this partnership was dissolved, and in a few months Mr. Syp resumed business in his own name. In 1877 Mr. Syp began to turn his attention to stock-raising. He owns 760 acres of land in Union Township, and 160 acres in Sand Creek Township. He is extensively engaged in the stock business. He has 450 head of cattle, a number of specimens of fine Holstein and short-horn cattle. He has seventy brood mares. He was married in Afton in April, 1858, to Miss Louisa Painter, who was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, in May, 1828. Her parents were John and Anna (Martin) Painter, who spent all of their married life in Northumberland County. Her mother died in 1849, and her father died four years later. They had eleven children, nine of whom grew to maturity. Two sisters are still living in Pennsylvania, the three being the only surviving members of the family. Mrs. Syp came to Afton in October, 1857, with her brother, William Painter. The latter lived in Afton several years, and died at Red Oak, Iowa, January 1, 1886. Mrs. Syp is a woman of more than ordinary intelligence and to whatever degree of success Mr. Syp has attained

in life, no small share of credit is due to the good advice and excellent management of his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Syp have three children —Coral Belle, wife of James Traxton, an attorney at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. Their two sons are —Newton and Harry. They lost three daughters in childhood. Mr. Syp divides his time between his mercantile business and his stock farm, which lies adjacent to the town.

GEORGE B. DREW, engaged in agriculture and stock-raising, is a resident on section 26, Douglas Townsip, at which place he is the proprietor of a quarter-section of improved land. He was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1852, the son of Harrison and Eliza (Lacy) Drew, natives of Ohio and Germany, respectively, who now reside in Ames County, Iowa. The subject of this sketch was but two years of age when he was brought by his parents to Mercer County, Illinois, where he remained until 1869, and in 1875 he settled in Union County. He was married in the latter year, in Poweshick County, Iowa, to Miss Eliza, daughter of John and Margaret (Manatt) Ives, natives of Iowa. They have no children. Mr. Drew for a time worked on a railroad, and when he began in life he had only a team of horses. He was next a contractor, and now a farmer and stock-raiser. His stock is of fine grade, and he feeds all the grain he raises. In his political views he is a Democrat. Post-office, Creston.

WILLIAM H. KEMPLIN, one of the enterprising and prosperous agriculturists of Union Township, engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 11, of Dodge Township, was born in Franklin County, Virginia, July 14, 1822, a son of William Kemplin, who was a native of the same State. Our subject was reared a farmer his father following that avocation till his death. His education was such as could be obtained in the rude log-cabin schools of that early day, which he attended when not engaged with the duties of the farm. He lived in his native State till about eleven years of age when he went with his parents to Berrien County, Michigan, where he grew to manhood. He came to Union County, Iowa, in 1854, being among the pioneer settlers of Dodge Township, where he has made his home since coming to Union County, and by his industry and good management has accumulated a good property, being now the owner of a fine farm containing 210 acres. Mr. Kemplin was united in marriage to Miss Eunice Comer, and to this union have been born seven children, of whom only four are living—Wilson P., Mrs. Maria Franklin, John and Evaline. Mr. Kemplin is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a respected citizen of Dodge Township.

JOHN S. BLACK, cashier of the Iowa State Savings Bank, Creston, is a native of Vermont, born in Washington County, May 23, 1849, a son of Ephraim and Alzina (Belknap) Black, natives respectively of Maine and Vermont, of Scotch descent. His father died in 1856, aged thirty-six years, and his mother is now living in Adair County, Iowa, and is sixty-four years of age. Left fatherless at the early age of seven years, he was, when quite young, obliged to rely on his own exertions. He was reared in Fontanelle, Iowa, living on a farm until fourteen years of age, and there was employed as deputy in the county auditor's office. He subsequently engaged in the general mercantile business in Fontanelle. In 1876 he located in Creston, and resumed the duties of his present position. His prosperity is due to his industrious habits and good business ability, having no assistance when he started his business career,

but he has steadily worked his way up until he is now one of the substantial business men of Union County. He owns a pleasant home in Creston, and a fine farm of 209 acres in Adair County, Iowa. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders, and in his religious views is liberal. He is a public-spirited, enterprising man, and one of the foremost to assist in building up the material and social welfare of his town. He was married in Afton in 1873, to Frances V. Burker, a native of Mendota, Illinois, born in 1854, a daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth (Williams) Burker. They have four children—Clarence A., Charles S., Irene E. and Dena A.

B. S. PATTERSON, engaged in farming and stock raising on section 26, Platte Township, was born in Knox County, Ohio, July 12, 1836, a son of Isaac and Allen (Jones) Patterson, who were both born in the State of Pennsylvania. He was reared on a farm and educated in the district schools of his native State, remaining there until 1849, when he came to Iowa in company with his brother. Two years later he returned to Ohio, and in 1852 went to California, remaining there till 1857. He returned to Iowa in that year, and after residing a short time in Muscatine County, came to Union County, when he settled on the farm where he still makes his home, his farm containing 12 acres of well cultivated land. Mr. Patterson has been twice married, his first wife, Sarah Cole, dying about eleven months after her marriage. For his second wife he married Lucy Ann Henneler, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of J. B. and Jane Henneler. To this union have been born six children—Edward B., born November 10, 1865; William H., August 10, 1868; Nettie J., February 12, 1871; Venona, July 13, 1875; Mary, July 13, 1877, and Anna, March 21, 1880. In politics Mr. Patterson affiliates with the Republican party. During his residence in Grant Township he has filled acceptably several township offices, serving as assessor four years—which position he is holding at the present time—township clerk for three years, and has also served as school director.

EDWIN K. CLARK, dealer in paints, varnishes, wall paper, brushes, etc., at No. 236 Pine Street, Creston, was born in 1845. His parents were Justin S. and Mary J. (Miller) Clark, the former a native of New York, and the latter of Ohio, of Scotch and Irish ancestry; father is still living, the mother is deceased. Of their eight children, the subject of this sketch is next to the youngest. He was four years old when the family moved to Kentucky, and after a residence there of about seven years they removed to Athens, Ohio, where Edwin K., our subject, remained until 1862. He then enlisted in Company C, Seventy-fourth Ohio Infantry and served two years, being in the battle of Stone River and with Sherman, almost constantly under fire; also in the battle at Atlanta. He re-enlisted in Company K, Sixty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served two years longer. In August, in front of Atlanta, he was taken prisoner, and confined in Andersonville Prison and Miller five months. When he was liberated he was within twenty miles of Jacksonville; was mustered out at the close of the war at Columbus, Ohio, at Camp Chase. He was married in 1872, in Omaha, Nebraska, to Mary E., daughter of Benjamin and Keziah E. (Potts) Trumbull. She was a niece of Hon. Lyman Trumbull, of Chicago. Her father, a native of Connecticut, was of English descent, and her mother was born in Pennsylvania, of German ancestry. She was born in Springfield, Illinois, in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have had six children, five of whom are living. Their names are—Lula M., Eddie M., Benjamin, Daisy and Freddie, liv-

ing, and the deceased was Sadie. Mr. Clark is a member of Lodge No. 207, I. O. O. F., at Creston, of Post No. 61, G. A. R., and of the V. A. S. He had five brothers, all in the late war, two of whom were killed, one in Kentucky and the other at Chickamauga. Mr. Clark has a house and lot at 511 Pine Street. He came to this county in the fall of 1873, locating then in his present business. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church.

JOHN ROBERTS, one of the pioneers of Union County, and a successful agriculturist of Platte Township, was born in West Virginia, November 16, 1824, a son of John and Nicy Roberts, who were natives of Maryland. Our subject was reared to the avocation of a farmer which he has followed through life with the exception of three years while in the service of his country. He enlisted in Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and participated in a number of hard-fought battles. He was honorably discharged at Davenport, Iowa, May 19, 1865, when he returned to his home. For his wife he married Miss Adelia Baker, who was born in Virginia, August 1, 1829, a daughter of Jacob and Mary Baker. To this union have been born ten children—Nina Bella, deceased; Amanda M., wife of J. W. Jones; B. A., wife of J. Hartman; Mary E., wife of J. Elliott; Hannah V., wife of D. A. Riggs; J. S. married Mead Wiley; Flora M., wife of L. Burnur; William, at home; Charles H. and Nellie. Mr. Roberts can attribute his success in life mainly to his own exertions, he having come West with but very limited means. He experienced many of the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life, coming here when the country was in a wild state, and when Indians and wild animals were numerous. His first house in Union County was a rude log-cabin with puncheon floor, and his nearest milling place was Indianola, Iowa. He is at present engaged in farming and raising stock, in which he is meeting with success. He now owns 265 acres of well-improved land in Grant Township, where he has a comfortable and commodious residence and good farm buildings, and is surrounded with all the necessary comforts of life. He is one of the respected citizens of Grant Township, and is held in high esteem by all who know him. In his political views he affiliates with the Republican party. During his residence here he has held various township offices, including trustee and treasurer, and has served as school director for several years. He is a comrade of John A. Rolen Post, No. 61, G. A. R., of Creston. Both he and his wife are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JOSEPH M. THOMPSON, an enterprising farmer of Lincoln Township, residing on section 26, was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, July 3, 1830, his father, Benjamin Thompson, being a native of the same county. When he was a child his father took his family to Hancock County, Illinois, and when about ten or twelve years of age he came with his parents to Van Buren County, Iowa, and in that county he received the rudiments of an education by attending the log-cabin schools of that early day. In his teens he went to Wapello County, Iowa, and a few years later went to Monroe County, Iowa, where he worked four years in the mill of E. P. Conover, and for two years worked in a steam flouring-mill at Albia, that county. In August, 1855, he came to Union County, Iowa, and settled where he now lives when there were no settlements within twelve miles north and twenty-five miles west. But three houses had been built in Afton, and where the thriving city of Creston now stands, was a wilderness roamed over by wild ani-

mals and Indians. Our subject in those early days had to go from twenty-five to fifty miles to mill, and his trading was done at Winterset and Osceola. He is now the owner of a fine farm of 200 acres of well-cultivated land on section 26, where he is surrounded with all the necessary comforts of life. Mr. Thompson was first married January 19, 1853, in Monroe County, to Miss Margaret Jones, daughter of Stephen Jones. Of the three children born to this union only one is living—Edgar A. Mrs. Thompson died in August, 1859, and October 30, 1860, Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Mary E. Demeree, a daughter of Samuel Demeree, of Nebraska. Ten of the fifteen children born to this union still survive—Ezra C., Earl, Ella, Phœbe, Kate, Mary L., Guy, Ida, Lina B. and Emma E. Mr. Thompson is one of the active men of Union County, and has served efficiently in several official trusts, such as county supervisor, township trustee and school director.

SHURLBURT, proprietor of the second-hand store at No. 115 Pine Street, Creston, was born March 18, 1833, in the city of Philadelphia. His parents were Wesley and Fanny (Gibson) Hurlburt, natives respectively of New York and Ireland. She was only six weeks old when she was brought to America by her parents. Mr. Hurlburt's boyhood and youth were passed at the cooper's trade and boating on the Erie Canal, but when only fifteen years of age he crossed the plains to California, was there five months and returned to New York by water. Next, spending two years in Brown County, Ohio, learning the cooper's trade, he located in Schuyler County, Illinois, and lived there twenty-five years; then worked in the oil region two years; returned to Illinois; went to Pike's Peak in 1858, remaining only two months; then stopped in Madison County, Illinois, a while, then Adams County, same State, and finally, in 1876, he came to Union County. His father was murdered in 1837, in Philadelphia, in the terrible riot which took place there between the Catholics and Protestants. His mother died about 1875, with yellow fever, in a lazaretto in Philadelphia. Mr. Hurlburt had three brothers, all of whom were in the late war, one of whom died while in the service. He has brought up four children—John F., Sarah E., N. W. and E. M. Foster, brothers and sisters, all of whom esteem Mr. Hurlburt as if he were their natural father.

ALBERT HARTMAN, farmer and stock-raiser, section 3, Spaulding Township, is a native of Johnson County, Iowa, born in 1844, a son of Carr and Elizabeth (Kepler) Hartman, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, of German descent. Their parents came to Iowa and settled in Johnson County in 1842, and there the mother died when our subject was a child, and the father in 1883, aged sixty-nine years. They had two children—Harriet, wife of Henry Close, of Iowa City, and Albert. Our subject was reared on a farm in his native county, and in his youth learned practical lessons that have been of benefit to him in all the transactions of his life. He moved to Union County in 1874, and settled on the farm where he now lives, which at that time was a tract of uncultivated land. He has improved his land, and now has one of the most pleasant farms in the township. In 1861 Mr. Hartman enlisted in the defense of his country, and was assigned to Company E, Tenth Iowa Infantry, and served four years. He participated in the battles of Champion Hills, Corinth, Chattanooga and many others of less note. At the battle of Champion Hills he was wounded and was unable to perform active duty six months, and now receives a small pension. He was married in Johnson County, in

1867, to Sophia E., daughter of Joel and Elizabeth Oberholster, natives of Ohio, of German descent. To them have been born three children—Archie E., Susan E. and Effie M. Mr. Hartman has served his township as assessor, clerk, school director and supervisor, and in all the trusts imposed on him has proved himself a reliable and efficient officer. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

COLONEL JOHN O'KEEFFE, of the firm of John O'Keeffe & Company, dealers in clothing and gents' furnishing goods, engaged in business at Creston in 1876, with H. Newman, in the clothing and merchant tailor business. This partnership continued about three months, when the present firm was established. The business house of John O'Keeffe & Company is located on Adams street, and is by far the most complete establishment of the kind to be found in Union County. Colonel O'Keeffe is a native of the Emerald Isle, having been born in the city of Kilkenny, Ireland, March 8, 1850. His parents, James and Ellen O'Keeffe, are still living in Ireland, and are the parents of five children, our subject being the only one residing in America. He is not, however, the first one that came. His father came when he was a young man, and married Ellen Doran, an American lady of Irish ancestry. They were married at Steubenville, Ohio, and their two eldest sons were born in that State. About five years subsequent to their marriage the father returned to his native country with his family. The maternal grandmother of Mr. O'Keeffe was born in Ireland. Her maiden name was O'Connell. She was well educated, and a teacher in her native land, when the penal laws of Ireland punished with death those who were detected in teaching the people the simplest rudiments of the language. She afterward came to America where, as previously stated, the mother of Colonel O'Keeffe was born. The parents of our subject were well-educated, refined people, and gave their children opportunities for a liberal education. The two sons that were born in America are lawyers by profession, one of whom is located at Dublin and the other at Carlow. When the war of the Rebellion in America was at its height, Colonel O'Keeffe was a student at St. Patrick's College, Carlow. He was then only a youth, but had become possessed of a strong desire to come to this country, and resolved to make an effort to accomplish his wishes. He accordingly left the college, unknown to his parents or the faculty, and, going to Liverpool, with the money furnished for his college expenses, purchased a ticket for New York, where he landed in November. In that city he found friends of his father, who rendered him what assistance he needed. In the spring of 1861 he engaged as correspondent for the *Irish-American*. He joined the famous Sixty-ninth Regiment, and continued with them for a time, when he was taken sick, and sent to the hospital at Hagerstown, Maryland. He remained there two months, and in the meantime Lee had surrendered and the war had closed. He returned to New York City, and soon after engaged to learn the merchant tailoring business with Messrs. Calvert & Robinson on Broadway. In 1868 he enlisted for service in the United States Army, underwent a competitive examination, and was made Second Lieutenant in the Second United States Cavalry. He remained in the army until 1872, and then resigned. His field of operations was in Montana, Wyoming and Dakota. He was engaged in several battles with the Indians, and at the battle with the Sioux at Powder River in 1869, received three wounds. He also received a gunshot wound at the battle of the Sweet Water in 1870. At the close of his military service he went to Omaha, Nebraska, and engaged in the merchant tailoring business, and remained there until he removed to Creston. Colonel O'Keeffe

served on the staff of Governor Gear, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, four years, or during the entire administration of that Governor. May 26, 1886, he was appointed special aid-de-camp on the staff of Governor Larrabee. He has served five years on the city School Board, and two years of that time was its president. He was married in Omaha to Miss Ellen Murphy, a native of that city. They have two children—Clara and Frank R.

A. P. RUGH, dealer in drugs and medicines, Creston, is located at 120 Maple street. In 1878 he purchased an interest in a drug store with O. E. Silverthrone. At that time he was in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, and the business was managed by his partner. In the winter of 1882-'3 he sold his interest to C. S. Morse, and soon after Mr. Morse purchased the interest of Mr. Silverthorne. In 1885 the old firm of Rugh & Silverthorne represented the business, and January 1, 1886, Mr. Rugh became sole proprietor. He was born in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, in 1836. When about fourteen years of age his parents removed to Columbiana County, Ohio, and in 1854 the family removed to Illinois and located near Monmouth. Several years later they moved to Bushnell, McDonough County. The father, John Rugh, now lives in Quincy, Illinois; the mother is deceased. Mr. Rugh left home when about eighteen years of age. September 1, 1859, he began working for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, and continued in their employ until October 16, 1882—a period of over twenty-three years. He was employed in the locomotive department all this time. On the morning of April 4, 1875, the passenger train, of whose locomotive he was in charge, collided with another train near Tyrone, Iowa, known as the Tyrone collision. The conductor of his train, John Miller, and the express messenger were instantly killed, and the fireman of the other train, Charles Pickle, was also killed. Mr. Rugh saved his life by jumping from the engine at the moment of collision; but he was seriously injured as the train was in rapid motion at the time, and was unable to do duty for some time. He made several attempts during the following year, but was obliged to give it up. In May, 1876, he was appointed foreman of the locomotive department at Council Bluffs, and in November, 1880, was appointed traveling engineer for the company. In the spring of 1880 he was made foreman of the locomotive department at Chariton, where he continued until 1882. During the interval that he was out of the drug business at Creston, he was in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company as engineer between Marion and Ottumwa. Mr. Rugh was married in Missouri, May 10, 1857, to Miss Fannie Andrews, and they have one son—Fred. They lost five children, and all died in infancy except one daughter, Alice, who died at the age of sixteen years.

HOWARD E. IDE, superintendent of the Union Draft Horse Association, Creston, Iowa, was born in Seekonk, Massachusetts, September 8, 1857, a son of William T. and S. A. (Stone) Ide, natives of Massachusetts, of English descent. Mr. Ide came to Iowa in 1872. He was married in 1881 to S. P. Andrews, born in 1860, at Marietta, Ohio. They have one son—William T., born in 1883. The Union Draft Horse Association, of which Mr. Ide is a member, was organized in 1885. For sometime he was secretary, but at present is its superintendent. The association owns several fine horses, the following being some of the most notable—Hoang Ho and Privateer, Norman stallions; the Judge and Maxxman, Clydesdale stallions; Marsh-

man, English Shire stallion; McMahon, 2,460, Percheron stallion; Lord Zetland, imported Cleveland Bay stallion; Sandy Racket, thoroughbred stallion; Madam Dien, 1,758, Pride, 1,810, Faustine 1,682, Norman mares. Their horses are recorded in the proper records of each breed, and their responsibility is vouched for by all with whom they have had deal. Mr. Ide owns a fine farm of 240 acres in Grant Township on sections 17 and 20. He is a thorough-going business man, strictly honorable and upright, and is one of the prominent and esteemed young men of Creston.

H. SPURR, photographer, located on the corner of Maple and Montgomery streets, at Creston, in November, 1882. He has had many years' experience in photography, and thoroughly understands his business, and avails himself of all improvements pertaining to this branch of industry. His rooms are pleasant and well adapted to his use, and he has built up a good trade. His workmanship is unexcelled. Mr. Spurr was born in Chautauqua County, New York, in 1869. He removed with his father, J. S. Spurr, to Vinton, Iowa, where the latter still resides. Previous to locating in business for himself, Mr. Spurr was in the employ of a former photographer at Creston, Viola Cuttler.

VANHORN, an active and enterprising agriculturist of Platte Township, engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 12, is a native of the State of Ohio, the date of his birth being January 7, 1814, a son of William and Sidney Vanhorn, who were natives of New Jersey. Mr. Vanhorn was united in marriage to Miss Sara Neal, a daughter of Martin and Nancy Neal, his wife being born January 6, 1813. She is now deceased, her death taking place March 27, 1880. To Mr. and Mrs. Vanhorn were born nine children—Jane, born March 7, 1833; Martin, born January 20, 1838; Nancy, born February 25, 1839; Sidney, February 14, 1842; William, born July 28, 1844; Barbara, born May 4, 1846; Mary, born May 10, 1848; James, born February 25, 1850; John, born May 11, 1851. Mr. Vanhorn commenced life a poor boy, being possessed of no capital but a pair of willing hands and a determination to succeed. He made his first start in life in hauling rails and splitting cord wood, and by persevering industry and strict economy he has gained a competency for his declining years, being possessed of a good farm of sixty acres under fair cultivation, and a comfortable home. Quiet, unassuming, industrious and strictly honorable in all his dealings, he has gained the confidence and respect of all who know him. In politics he affiliates with the Democratic party.

JOHN M. HAYS, attorney and counselor at law, and notary public, located at Creston in December, 1880. He was born in Fayette County, Indiana, July 1, 1853. In March, 1865, his father, John Hays, removed to Preble County, Ohio. He graduated at Geneva College, Pennsylvania, in the class of '78. This class was composed of ten members, and Mr. Hays is the only one that chose the law as a profession. He taught school at intervals during his college course, and taught considerably afterward. He was engaged in teaching in Fayette County, Indiana, at the same time reading law with Messrs. Little & Little at Connersville, the county seat of Fayette County. In the spring of 1880 he was admitted to the bar at Connersville, and June 23, that same year, he came to Iowa, and to Creston in October. His parents still reside in Preble County, Ohio. They have four sons and three daughters. They are well known as a family of

influence and culture; have had good educational advantages. An older brother, William A., came to Iowa in 1879, locating on a farm in Louisa County. In 1883 he disposed of his farm and returned to Ohio. A younger brother, James H., graduated at Monmouth College, Illinois, in 1871, and follows the teacher's profession. He was superintendent of the high school at Connersville for some time. In 1885 he was called to the principalship of the Afton high school. After a successful year at that place he accepted the superintendency of schools at Winfield, Kansas. The other members of the family are residents of Ohio.

JOSEPH HATHAWAY, farmer and stock-raiser, section 19, Douglas Township, postoffice, Cromwell, is a son of William M. and Elmira J. (Sellers) Hathaway, and was born in Cass County, Indiana, in 1838. His father is still living, but his mother died in 1848. He was brought up to the years of manhood upon his father's farm. July 3, 1861, at the age of twenty-three years, he enlisted in Company A, Twenty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was in the service of his country four years, six months and twenty-four days. In the battle of Pine Grove, December 8, 1862, he was wounded in the left side, from which the ball was never extracted. He also engaged in the battles of Vicksburg, Sterling Plantation, Louisiana, Fort Spanish and other smaller contests. Commencing in life without means other than his physical and mental capacities, all he now possesses he owes only to himself. In his youth he obtained a good common-school education. He now has a good farm, well equipped with buildings and other improvements. He came to this county in 1871. He is now serving as assessor of his township the third year. Before the war he was a Democrat, but since he has been a zealous Republican. He and his wife are prominent members of the Christian church. They were married March 24, 1864, in Cass County, Indiana. She was Miss Ellen, daughter of Peter and Tena (Fieshaur) Michael, and was born July 25, 1841, in Cass County, Indiana. They have had five children—Bradford, Minnie, Charlie, Lewis and Harry, the last mentioned being the only one living.

W. H. ROBB was one of the early pioneers of Union County, coming here in the spring of 1856, when seven years of age, with his father's family, who settled two miles southwest of Afton on a farm. His father died in 1864, and William, being the oldest boy, took charge of the farm, which he and his brothers managed successfully for several years. In 1868 he started out in life for himself, leaving the old homestead in charge of his brothers. With $25 in his pocket he started West, determined to cross the plains, which were then only traversed by wagon trains, under escort of Government troops. He walked to Plattsmouth, Nebraska, and from there to Nebraska City. While waiting for a train to start overland, he was offered work on a farm near that place, and concluded to stay there that summer. The next fall he traversed the country west of Nebraska City, then only inhabited by settlers in dug-outs along the streams, in company with a set of threshers. The threshing season closed only when the snow became too deep to move the heavy machinery, which was left in the valley of the Little Blue, some twenty miles west of Lincoln. From here he walked back to Nebraska City, near which place he taught school that winter. The next spring he was offered a situation as teacher of one of the departments of Nebraska College, and while here he pursued his studies, keeping his place with the higher classes, and, at the same time, instructing his classes in the

Yours Truly
Wm. H. Cobb

intermediate grades. From Nebraska City he went to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, to engage in the study of law. After a year's study he was compelled on account of his health to come back to Iowa and go on the farm again. In 1873 he married Miss Kate A. White, then a teacher in the public schools of Creston. Their marriage was the first one ever celebrated in Creston. In 1877 he purchased the Afton *Tribune*, then a Republican paper, changed the name of the paper to *Independent American*, and the politics to National Greenback. The paper has gradually grown in circulation and influence, until it is now one of the leading papers in Iowa. Politically, Mr. Robb was a born Abolitionist, his father being a radical anti-slavery man. His first votes were cast for the Republican ticket, but in 1873 he joined in what was known as the Granger movement, and took a strong stand on the anti-monopoly question. His first public speeches were made this year. In 1876 he became a very active supporter of Peter Cooper, then a candidate for President on the National Greenback ticket, and stumped the county for his favorite candidate. The result of the vote surprised the old politicians, who did not expect over 100 votes would be given to Cooper, but the poll showed over 400 Cooper votes, and Sand Creek Township had been carried by a sweeping majority. From this time on "Billy" Robb became an important factor in Union County politics. In 1880 he moved his paper from Afton to Creston. In 1884, after a fierce contest, he was elected alderman from the Second Ward, and in the fall of 1885 he was elected as member of the Twenty-first General Assembly of Iowa, after a political contest that will long be remembered as one of the most bitter and virulent that had ever taken place in Union County. As a member of the Legislature the records show that he took a prominent part in all discussions on bills of importance, and he was the author of several measures which received marked attention from the press and people. Chief among the measures introduced by him was the bill to prohibit non-resident aliens acquiring title to real estate in Iowa. This was one of the first bills of this character ever discussed in a Western Legislature, and it received prominent mention and discussion in the editorial columns of the metropolitan papers of New York, Chicago and Kansas City. It passed the lower branch of the Assembly by an overwhelming majority, but was defeated in the Senate. Mr. Robb is still the editor and proprietor of *Independent American*.

JAMES RYAN, machinist, residing on section 9, Highland Township, is a native of Scotland, born in Edinburgh, September 17, 1843. His father, James Ryan, was a native of London, England, and in the childhood of our subject returned to his native country. James, Jr., was reared in London, and was well educated, attending the National School of St. Mary's, Southwark District. After leaving school he learned the trade of a machinist, and in 1861 went to Bulgaria and worked at his trade in Rustchuk three years under the railway contractor, De Brasse. He then went to Constantinople, and worked in the Government gun factory two years. In 1869 he went to Smyrna, in Asia Minor, where he was employed in the railway shops six months, and then returned to London, and in the fall of 1870 came to America, and worked for the Grand Trunk & Great Western Railway, in Canada, from 1871 until 1875. In 1876 he was sent to the Centennial Exposition, at Philadelphia, by the Canadian Government, to superintend the agricultural hall of the Canadian department. In 1877 he moved to Detroit, Michigan, and in 1878 to Iowa, and located at Creston, and since then has been in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, running the brass lathe in the machine shop. Mr. Ryan has been twice married. His first

wife was Emma J. Mortimer, to whom he was married in London, October 11, 1867. She died in 1873, leaving one son, James, who is in London. In 1874 Mr. Ryan married Mrs. Elizabeth Green, a widow with three children—John C., Herbert and Arthur. Mr. Ryan is a member of the Odd Fellows order. In religious faith he is a Unitarian, his wife being a member of the Episcopal church.

JAMES F. McCORMACK, attorney and notary public at Creston, has been a resident of this city since 1872, and was the first practicing attorney of Creston. He was born at Tullamona, Kings County, Ireland, in October, 1829. He was educated at Rahan College, Kings County, and at St. Andrew's College, Scotland; he also attended Eton College, England. He studied law at the Temple in London, and was at one time a member of Parliament from the borough of Stockport. Mr. McCormack was an Irish patriot of 1848, and was tried, with Thomas Francis Mahan, William Smith O'Brien, and others, for high treason, and sentenced to be hanged, quartered and beheaded; but the sentence was commuted to transportation for life to Van Dieman's Land. After about a year he, with two others, McMahan and Thompson, made their escape to America on a French vessel. McMahan afterward became a General in the Union army in the war of the Rebellion. He was drowned in the Missouri River near Fort Benton. Thompson died several years before the war. After coming to America Mr. McCormack was engaged in various occupations for several years. In 1863 he began the study of law at Ogdensburg, New York. His previous education greatly facilitated his studies, and he was admitted to the bar in 1864 in Syracuse, the same State. He has been in constant practice ever since that time. He came to Iowa in 1872, locating at Creston, as before stated, and was admitted at Afton, May 4, of that year, Judge James W. McDill, presiding. The following year he went to Kansas for the benefit of his health. He located at Topeka and was admitted by the Hon. John T. Morton, and was at the same time admitted to practice in the United States courts. After an absence of a year he returned to Creston and was admitted to the United States Court at Des Moines, March 9, 1882. He was married in Scotland to Miss Ann Quinn, a native of Kings County, Ireland. They have no surviving children. Mr. McCormack was a Democrat for several years, but is now a Republican, and did good work for Blaine in 1884. In religion he is a Roman Catholic.

HAZARD DUNN, a successful agriculturist of Lincoln Township, living on section 34, was born in St. Joseph, Michigan, July 29, 1834, a son of Nehemiah and Sidney (Hopkins) Dunn, the father a native of Kentucky, and of Scotch descent, the mother being of German ancestry. The parents now make their home in Linn County, Missouri. Our subject remained on the home farm till fourteen years of age, and received such education as the rude log-cabin subscription schools of that early day afforded. After leaving the farm he began learning the machinist's trade, which he followed until the year 1861. He was married in 1860 to Miss Rhoda Townsend, a native of Pennsylvania, and of the seven children born to this union only three are now living—Nettie, a student at Drake University; Carrie and Charlie. Mr. Dunn was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, serving his country about two years, and during his term of service participated in the battles of Hollow Springs, Jackson, Vicksburg, Milliken's Bend, Champion Hill and others of minor importance. He came to Iowa in 1865, locating then in Story County, where he lived until 1872. He then came to

Union County, and settled on the farm, where he has since followed agricultural pursuits. His farm in Union Township had but one acre broken when he first settled on it, and to-day the farm contains 100 acres of fine land, all under cultivation. Mr. Dunn began life entirely without means, but industrious habits, combined with strict economy and good management have enabled him to prosper, and by his own efforts he has become the owner of his present fine property, and has been able to assist his parents in their declining years. Mr. Dunn has served two terms as township trustee, beside holding other local offices. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

JOSEPH M. MILLIGAN, attorney and counselor at law, Afton. The bar of Union County possesses many excellent lawyers and men of more than average ability, a number of whom have attained an excellent reputation and a high standing in the profession solely by their own efforts. Prominent among this class is the subject of this notice, Joseph M. Milligan, of Afton, who has been a resident of this county since 1868. He is a native of Washington County, Pennsylvania, born May 22, 1833. His father, Robert Milligan, was a native of the north of Ireland. His paternal grandfather, John Milligan, was a native of Scotland, and immigrated to America about 1790, when his son Robert was five years of age, settling in Washington County, Pennsylvania. Robert Milligan served five years in the Indian wars, and in the war of 1812. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Milligan, William Adams, was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and at one time was a member of the body-guard of General Washington. Our subject was reared in his native State, and attended the common schools. When twenty-two years of age he entered Waynesburg College, in Greene County, where he took a scientific course, graduating in 1861. In the meantime he had engaged in teaching to some extent, to enable him to continue his college course. He entered upon the study of the law soon after graduating, still teaching at intervals, and was admitted to the bar in 1866. He did not, however, enter at once upon the practice of law, but continued to teach. He has had a large experience as an educator, extending over a period of thirteen years. For two years he was principal of the school at Afton. In 1869 he was appointed county superintendent to succeed Rev. Robbins, serving the unexpired term, and in 1870 he was elected to that office by the suffrage of the people, serving the full term. After an interval of one term he was again elected. He has been connected with the School Board at Afton eight years, and his experience as an educator has rendered him a valuable member of that body. In 1870 Mr. Milligan began the practice of law, and in 1873 formed a partnership with S. W. McElderry, which continued about four years. From 1876 until 1884 he was associated with Judge N. W. Rowell, since which time he has been alone. He was mayor of Afton in 1873, and was for several years a member of the town council. Politically Mr. Milligan is a Republican. He cast his first Presidential vote for General Fremont, in 1856. He has always been an ardent admirer of the principles of his party, and in the exciting campaigns of the past he has done good service for his party on the platform and elsewhere. Mr. Milligan was married in Greene County, Pennsylvania, in 1861, to Miss Sarah Throckmorton, and to this union have been born five children—Albert J., Nancy T., Robert F., William and Fannie G. Mr. Milligan has three brothers and one sister living—John, who resides in Washington County, Pennsylvania, was a member of the One Hundred and Sixteenth Regiment, Mounted Rifles, Pennsylvania, during the late war; Robert, a farmer in

Clarke County, was also a soldier in the war for the Union; James, residing in Washington County, served in the One Hundred and Sixteenth, and was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg.

T. L. BELL, proprietor of a harness establishment at Creston, W. R. Bell, manager, was born in Burlington, New Jersey, in 1844, son of Thomas and Rachel (Graham) Bell. The father was born on the ocean, of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and the mother is of American birth. The subject whose name heads this sketch, enlisted in Company K. Fourteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served thirty-three months, being mustered out in January, 1864. He participated in the battles of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, Tupelo, Mississippi, and Oldtown Creek, in the latter of which he was wounded in the right thigh; was also in many other engagements. After the close of the war he went to Chariton, Iowa, where he learned the harness trade, which he has since followed. He came to Creston in June, 1872, and now owns a house and lot, and a business block. He is a member of the Odd Fellows order, in politics a Republican, and both himself and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was married in 1868, in Adams County, Iowa, to Lovina S. Ennis, who was born in Ohio, in 1850. They have had three children—Ella M., Robert F. (deceased) and Daisy.

LYMAN WATERMAN, JR., dealer in feed and produce at 116 South Union Street, Creston, was born in La Salle County, Illinois, November 20, 1857, and is a son of Lyman and Elizabeth (Wakefield) Waterman, the former a native of New York and the latter of Pennsylvania. They came with their family, in 1869, to this county, and still reside in Creston. Young Waterman, from eight to ten years of age, was in Bureau County, Illinois, and in 1869 came and settled in Douglas Township; was reared as a farmer boy. In 1883 he entered the real-estate business, which he indeed still continues in connection with his other cares. He, in connection with G. B. Webster, owns half of section 23, in Lincoln Township, which they have under a good system of cultivation. Their stock is mostly of the graded varieties. They have 240 acres in grass, a fine orchard, and good farm buildings. He has also a house and lot in Creston and a large house and three acres of ground on South Hill. Mr. Waterman started in life with small means, but is making money fast at present. He is an enterprising gentleman; votes the Republican ticket. He was married in Union County, in 1878, the day he was twenty-one years old, to Maggie Leith, who was born in Cedar County, Iowa, in 1858. They have three children—Earl L., Maggie M. and Blanche E.

JAMES K. JOHNSTON, retired farmer, residing in Cromwell, was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, December 24, 1814. His father, Samuel Johnston, was a native of Pennsylvania, of Irish and German ancestry, and his mother, Elizabeth Kerr, was born in Kentucky, of Irish descent. Mr. Johnston, our subject, lived near Circleville, Ohio, until he attained his tenth year, when he went to Hocking County, that State, and was there till 1872; he then came to this county. He was brought up in agricultural pursuits, and, although his early education was limited, and he had but $100 to start with, he has made such headway in the world by his industrious habits and good judgment that he has been able to give each of his children nearly $2,000 apiece, and he owns eighty acres of land in Lincoln. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is esteemed an exemplary citizen. In Hocking County,

Ohio, in 1841, Mr. Johnston was married to Sarah Patterson, who was born in Ohio in 1818, and of their eight children three only are living—George B., who was born in 1846 in the State of Ohio, in 1864 bore a portion of the hardships in the late war, in front of Petersburg and Richmond. He afterward married Emma Reddick, of Hocking County, Ohio, and has one child, Bessie S., born June 11, 1883. S. M., who married Nancy A. Bellew, of Vinton County, Ohio, has two children—James W. and Samuel W., and Amy C., who became the wife of P. A. Swepston, Vinton County, Ohio, has four children—Mayo B., Enod A., Edna A. and Myrtie E. All are living in the vicinity of Cromwell, Iowa.

WILEY E. PRIDGEN, wagon and carriage-maker at Afton, located at this place in September, 1868. He may be regarded as the first wagon-maker in the place, having established his business here in April, 1869; and manufactured the first wagon, on Kansas street, in the second block east of the southeast corner of the square. He had previously been engaged in bridge-building for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. Mr. Pridgen was born in St. Stephens, St. Clair County, Alabama, February 28, 1834. His father, Larkin M. Pridgen, was a native of France, and came to America when a young man. He lived in North Carolina a short time, then removed to Alabama, where he died, in 1863, at the hale old age of eighty-nine years. Mr. Pridgen's grandfather, Hardy Pridgen, came to America as a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and served under General La Fayette. At the close of the war he returned to France. The mother of our subject was Millie (Meyers) Pridgen, a native of Alabama and of French ancestry. She died at the age of forty-four years. There were four children—three sons and one daughter. The oldest, Allen, was a soldier in the Mexican war under General Price; he died about 1857. Jesse died in Missouri in 1860. Mrs. Ann Kelp resides in Alabama. At the breaking out of the Rebellion, Wiley E. and his father espoused the cause of the Union. In 1860 they came North on account of the excited condition of the country. Our subject enlisted at Greenfield, Greene County, Illinois, in 1862, as a member of Company K, Ninety-first Illinois, commanded by Colonel H. M. Day, and served until the close of the war, being mustered out at Mobile, Alabama, July 13, 1865. He participated in the siege of Vicksburg, siege of Port Hudson, and the battle of Lookout Mountain. Soon after this last event his regiment was transferred to the Department of the Gulf, and while Banks was engaged in his Red River expedition, he, with his regiment, was in Texas, capturing Brownsville. They then went to New Orleans, where they remained until the Mobile expedition, in which they took part. After the war Mr. Pridgen returned to Springfield, Illinois, thence to Iowa, and in August, 1866, engaged in bridge-building, as before stated. He was married in Illinois, in March, 1861, to Miss Maria Cox, a native of Virginia. They have two children—Walter, a resident of Illinois, and Fannie, living in Afton. Politically Mr. Pridgen is a Republican. His father was an old-line Whig.

J. W. SLUTTS, farmer and stock-raiser, section 4, Pleasant Township, is a native of Union County. His parents, Cyrus and Caroline Slutts, settled here as early as 1855, and remained residents of the county the rest of their lifetime, the father dying in 1864, at the age of thirty-three years, and the mother January 5, 1883, aged fifty-two. The subject of this notice was of course brought up to the vocation of farming, and

when he purchased his present place there was scarcely any improvement upon it; but by his diligence he has his 215 acres in a state of high cultivation, and well equipped with barns and other out-buildings, a fine residence, etc. He is considered a model farmer; is a member of the Christian church, and a Republican. It was in the year 1878 that Mr. Slutts was married to Mary E., daughter of Peter and Polly Bolinger, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio, the former of German and the latter of German Irish descent. Mrs. Slutts graduated at Beverly (Ohio) College, with a credit of 100 on all the branches, and she afterward taught school for several years. The children in this family are Daisy, Floyd and Rose. Postoffice, Thayer.

DAVID EADS, foreman of the blacksmith shop of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, at Creston, came to this city February 14, 1870. He has occupied his present position since that time. He was born in Crawford County, Indiana, in 1828, and was reared in his native county, learning the blacksmith's trade. He has been continuously in the service of the above named company since 1858, being one of their oldest employes. He married Mary Merriman, and they have five children—two sons and three daughters.

RALPH MORGAN, one of the old and honored pioneers of Union County, now deceased, was born in the State of Kentucky, March 22, 1822, and died at his old homestead on section 32, Platte Township, December 18, 1885. He was early in life inured to hard work, and the lessons of industry learned in his youth proved of lasting benefit to him. When but eleven years of age he began working for himself, being employed on a farm, in Ohio, he having left his native State at that age. He remained in Ohio till reaching the age of twenty-three years, when he went to Indiana, remaining in that State four years. He was married in Indiana, to Miss Nancy Yoker, who was born in October, 1819, she being a daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Yoker, natives of Ohio. To this union were born ten children—Mary A., William R., Daniel, Henry A., Andrew, Mattie E., Frank R., Nancy J., Charles B. and Dora B. After his marriage Mr. Morgan removed to the State of Illinois, and after residing there four years he came to Union County, Iowa, and settled on the farm in Platte Township which is still owned and occupied by his family. As an agriculturist he was very successful, having by his own exertions become the owner of 300 acres of as good land as Platte Township affords. He was an active, public-spirited citizen, and was identified with the growth and development of Union County, and during his residence here served as school director, besides holding other township offices. In politics he affiliated with the Democratic party.

WILLARD S. PINKERTON, an enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Grant Township, was born in Mercer County, Illinois, March 26, 1852, a son of William M. and Eliza (Carnahan) Pinkerton, natives of Trumbull County, Ohio, and Mercer (now Lawrence) County, Pennsylvania, the father coming to Mercer County, Illinois, in 1848, and the mother in the year 1858. Our subject was reared a farmer, and received his education in the common schools of his native county and at the academy at Aledo, Illinois. After completing his education he followed teaching for two years. He was united in marriage July 2, 1874, to Miss Amanda Boyer, a daughter of Jeremiah Boyer, a resident of Mercer County, Illinois. Of the five

children born to this union, four are living—Mary E., William Jay, Violet A. and Gertrude. Mr. Pinkerton came to Ringgold County, Iowa, in 1880, and from there went to Taylor County, locating in Lenox, in 1883. In the spring of 1884 he settled on his present farm on section 18, Grant Township, Union County, where he has 160 acres of good land, and in connection with his agricultural pursuits he is successfuly engaged in running a sorghum factory. Mrs. Pinkerton is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

JUDGE D. D. GREGORY, of Afton, has been connected with the bar and bench of Union County since June 8, 1867. He was born in Otsego County, New York, April 22, 1832. His parents were Uriah and Phila (Moffet) Gregory. The former, a native of Norfolk, Connecticut, was taken by his parents to Otsego when a child. There were twelve children in the family of Uriah Gregory, four sons and eight daughters, all of whom reached maturity. Several of them are now deceased. Judge Gregory was reared in his native county. His education was obtained at Union College, Schenectady, in the class of '55. Several members of the class that graduated with Judge Gregory afterward became prominent citizens of Iowa, namely: M. M. Ham, of the Dubuque *Herald;* C. K. Peck, a prominent merchant of Keokuk, who died in 1879; Orrin H. Reynolds, of Sioux City, who died in 1858; Charles C. Smetzer, a State Senator, who died in 1872 at Fort Dodge; William W. Hungerford, a civil engineer at McGregor, Iowa; Almon G. Chase, a banker at Charles City; Henry D. Rice, at Boone, and Thomas C. Woodward, of Ottumwa. Judge Gregory was educated with a view of entering the ministry, and was ordained as a minister of the Baptist church; but he afterward decided to adopt the profession of the law for his life work. He entered upon the study of his chosen profession in the office of Captain Nathaniel Merrill, of De Witt, Iowa, in 1857. He remained there two years, and was admitted to the bar at the District Court, Judge John F. Dillon, presiding. Soon after this he went to Chicago, and formed a partnership in the firm name of Breckett & Gregory. The firm established a successful practice in Chicago, but the severity of the climate so affected the health of Judge Gregory that he resolved to make a change, and in 1867 came to Afton. Two years later he became associated with N. W. Rowell, which partnership continued several years. January 1, 1878, he was appointed judge of the Third Judicial District of Iowa, a position he occupied seven years. In January, 1886, he formed a partnership with Judson L. Wicks, of Creston. Judge Gregory was married in Illinois to Julia Etta Merritt, who was born in Ulster County, New York, and removed with her parents, Nehemiah and Belinda (Smith) Merritt, to Illinois. Judge Gregory and wife have had no children. They have two adopted daughters—Maud and Grace. The judge is a man of excellent literary attainments. His superior judgment and knowledge of the law have been well attested by his eminent success, both on the bench and at the bar. Politically he is a Republican. His first Presidential vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860. He has a beautiful home at Afton, where are to be found evidences of culture and refinement.

M. PETERS, teacher, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 12, of Spaulding Township. He was born in Adams County, Pennsylvania, in 1853. His parents, Henry and Eliza Peters, natives of Switzerland, now reside in Mercer County, Illinois, in which county he grew to manhood in the occupation of farming and teaching. Such

men always have a broader view of life than the average of mankind, know how to "take things by their smooth handle," and enjoy more of the world than they otherwise would. As a teacher, Mr. Peters has been signally successful. As a citizen of this republic he enjoys also a freedom unknown to the partisan, in that he votes for the "best man," regardless of party. His word is as good as his bond, and he is peculiarly wary in signing his name to any obligation. He has been a resident of Union County since 1880. He was married in Mercer County, Illinois, June 23, 1880, to Miss Maggie, daughter of Richard and Jane Cabeen, both natives of Ohio, and of Scotch-Irish ancestry. She was born in that county in 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Peters are the parents of three children—Richard, Finis and Cabeen. Both the paternal grandfathers of Mr. and Mrs. Peters were soldiers in the war of 1812. Postoffice, Spaulding.

JAMES FERMAN, general hardware merchant, is located on Adams street, Creston. In 1884 he purchased a half-interest in the hardware business of Horace Clark, and July 3 of the same year he bought the remaining interest, and has since been sole proprietor. He carries a full line of goods and has established a good trade. Mr. Ferman was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1841, and when five years of age removed with his parents to Ohio. In 1851 the family removed to Henry County, Illinois, where his parents, James and Catherine Ferman, passed the remainder of their days. August 18, 1861, Mr. Ferman enlisted in Company C, Forty-second Illinois Infantry, serving three years and two months. He participated in many of the most important battles of the war, including Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge. At the latter place he was severely wounded, and his service as a soldier was ended. He received a gun-shot wound in the left leg below the knee which fractured the bone. The wound was a painful and dangerous one, and rendered him permanently lame. He was confined in the hospital ten months, and seven months of the time was confined to his bed. For a long time the surgeons contemplated amputating the limb. Over fifty pieces of bone worked out of the wound while the process of healing was going on; and four years later a part of the ball made its appearance from the wound. The limb is three inches shorter than the other one. Prior to this misfortune Mr. Ferman received a sunstroke while on a march in Mississippi, from which he has never recovered. After the war he returned to Illinois, where he had a farm, which he conducted for a time. In March, 1883, he went to Wayne County, Nebraska, where he still owns property; but the condition of his wounded limb rendered him unable to attended to the duties of farming; and he also suffered from the effects of the sunstroke, especially in warm weather. He concluded to change his occupation, and accordingly, in 1884, came to Creston, and engaged in business. Mr. Ferman was married in Illinois, after his return from the war, to Miss Eliza N. Bradford. They have three children—two daughters and one son.

ELISHA S. WILCOX, deceased, was born in the State of New York, in 1812, immigrated to Kewanee, Henry County, Illinois, resided there thirty years, and then came to Union County. He labored as a colporteur for a number of years, beginning in 1847, and traveled till 1852, and while traveling became acquainted with Miss Anna E. Mills. He was married in Henry County, September 1, 1852, to Miss Mills, who was born in Dearborn County, Illinois, in 1828. They became the parents of seven children, five of whom are living.

John married Cora Hatch, and has one child, Barton; Mary is the wife of Tom Wakefield, of Spaulding, and the remaining three—Minnie M., Harry and Hattie—still reside on the home farm. The latter consists of 160 acres of well-cultivated land on section 25 of Spaulding Township, and it is leased, as the father died March 9, 1886. The mother died March 16, 1884. The parents were members of the Baptist church. The family came to Union County in 1884, and they were, and are, held in high esteem by all who know them. Postoffice, Creston.

BENJAMIN WRAY, an enterprising farmer of Highland Township, living on section 29, was born in Lincolnshire, England, January 30, 1822, a son of Benjamin Wray, who is now deceased. He was brought up on a farm, and received his education in the common schools of his native place. He was married in England, January 30, 1845, to Miss Caroline Vincent, daughter of the late John Vincent, and of the seven children born to this union only three are now living—Benjamin, Joseph and Sarah, who married Elmer Lenard of Creston, and has two children, named Annie and Maude. A daughter, Annie, died after reaching maturity. She was the wife of Lan Ickis. Mr. Wray left his native country with his family in 1851, landing at New York entirely without means. He borrowed $20 from a friend and started for Ohio. While on Lake Erie one of his children died. He spent the first winter near Paynesville, Ohio, and worked hard by the day to support himself and family, and by the strictest economy managed to save a little of his hard-earned wages. In the spring of 1852 he removed to St. Joseph County, Indiana, and in 1857 came to Union County, when he settled on the farm where he has since resided. The country was in a state of nature when Mr. Wray first settled here, and here he experienced many of the hardships of pioneer life. His nearest mill was at Winterset, and his trading was done at Ottumwa. His land was uncultivated, but twenty acres had been broken, and a fence had been built around forty acres. His land is now well improved, and his residence and farm buildings are comfortable and commodious. Mr. Wray may well be classed among the self-made men of Union County. Landing in America penniless, he has by industry, economy and good management gained a competency for his declining years, being now the owner of 1,000 acres of land. In connection with his general farming he is engaged in raising stock, paying some attention to graded stock, in which he is meeting with success.

RAYMOND C. DELMEGE, a successful and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of New Hope Township, was born in the north of Ireland, June 11, 1843. Soon after the birth of our subject, his parents, Christopher and Rebecca (Holmes) Delmege, immigrated to America, and first settled in Bristol, Illinois, whence they removed to Kewanee, Illinois. They came to Union County, Iowa, in 1869, and are still living in Creston, the father being now seventy-four years of age, and the mother aged seventy-six years. Raymond C. Delmege grew to manhood in Illinois, where he received a common-school education. He enlisted in the war in Company H, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, and was in the service almost three years. He was in a number of engagements including the battles of Nashville and Duck River, and was under fire around Nashville about sixty days. He came to this county in August, 1865, and spent three years in Union Township, and at the same time owned a farm in New Hope Township. In 1868 he settled on section 16, New Hope Township, where he has since followed agricultural pursuits, and is now the owner of

380 acres of choice land. He was married September 28, 1869, to Miss Mary M. White, and they have a family of four children—Frank, William, Sherman and Alfretta. Mr. Delmege makes a specialty of thorough-bred short-horns, and he and his brother, Richard H., own eighteen head of cattle, all registered. Mr. Delmege has served as justice of the peace for eight years, and was township trustee one term. He is at present serving as county supervisor with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders, belonging to the Masonic lodge at Murray, and the Odd Fellows lodge at Afton. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party.

GEORGE W. EMERSON, real-estate dealer at Afton, was born in Licking County, Ohio, September 8, 1838. His father, Jasper P. Emerson, resides at Afton. He was born in the town of Ware, in New Hampshire, November 1, 1809, and moved to Ohio with his parents in 1815, who settled on land in Licking County before the land was surveyed, and remained there until death. He laid out a town on his land called Concord, which still bears that name. The village cemetery was also on his land. Jasper P. Emerson removed to Union County from Ohio, and settled on 200 acres of the western part of section 12, Highland Township, which he improved and lived upon for many years. This farm now constitutes the principal part of the County Poor Farm of Union County. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Emerson had six children. Five grew to maturity, and four are still living. The oldest daughter, Sarah L., died in Ohio, at the age of fourteen years. The oldest son, Stephen L., came West in 1855, and settled on the eastern part of section 12, Highland Township. He now lives on section 29. Mrs. Nancy Barber, wife of W. W. Barber, resides on section 12, Highland Township. She was formerly the wife of James H. Deuel, who was a soldier in the late war, being a member of Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, and died in hospital at Keokuk in 1863. Lucretia A. was the wife of W. M. Wickham, of section 1, Highland Township. She is now deceased. George W., our subject, came to Union County with his father in 1857. In early life he was engaged in farming. He owned a farm in Lincoln Township, and sold it in 1875, and moved to Creston, where he engaged in the real-estate business, and from which place he was elected county recorder, in 1876, and served four years. Since that time he has been engaged in his present business, and resides at Afton. He was married in Afton to Miss Mary F. Galbraith, daughter of Samuel and Phebe Galbraith, then of Union Township, but now of Dodge Township. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson have five children—Nelson E., Luna E., Miriam E., Lena Band and Dora L. Miriam E., the third child had the misfortune to become a deaf mute at the age of three years, from the effects of spinal meningitis. Politically Mr. Emerson is a Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860.

W. ECKERSON, of Creston, is the division master mechanic of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at this place. He has charge of the locomotive and car department of the road from Chariton to Council Bluffs and branches. He has held this position since June, 1876, and has been in the employ of the company since April, 1870. He was first employed in the shops at Burlington, and in February, 1872, went to Council Bluffs, where he was foreman of the shops. Mr. Eckerson was born in Orleans County, New York, in the year

1843. He began railroading at a very early age, being seven years in the employ of the New York Central at Rochester, from which place he came to Burlington. Mr. Eckerson's father, John Eckerson, was one of the early settlers of Orleans County, where he lived until his decease. Mr. Eckerson learned the trade of a machinist while in the employ of the New York Central at Rochester. His long continuance in his present responsible position is sufficient evidence of the ability with which he discharges the duties devolving upon him. He was married at Medina, New York, to Miss Annie G. Bateman. They have two children—Fred and Annie Louisa.

OTIS D. MOORHEAD, section 22, Lincoln Township, is a native of Clermont County, Ohio, the date of his birth being October 29, 1843. His parents, William and Margaret (Arthur) Moorhead, were both natives of Brown County, Ohio, and are now living in Clermont County, where they have made their home for many years. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Patrick Moorhead, was a native of Scotland, but immigrated to America many years ago, when he settled in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. James Arthur, the maternal grandfather of our subject is still living in Brown County, Ohio, aged nearly ninety years. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and for his services in that war draws a pension. The father of our subject was a mechanic, and followed wood-turning for many years. Otis D. Moorhead was reared to the avocation of a farmer, and has made that his life work. He served as a soldier in the late war almost three years, and was wounded and taken prisoner at Sabine Cross-Roads. He was kept a prisoner at Mansfield, Louisiana, from April 8 until July 11, 1864, and later in the same month received his discharge. He participated in a number of engagements, including the battle of Shiloh, siege of Corinth, siege of Vicksburg, Chickasaw Bayou and Red River campaign. In the fall of 1867 he settled in Wapello County, Iowa, where he was married December 26, 1870, to Lucy E. Howell, a daughter of Lemuel Howell, of Wapello County. They are the parents of three children—Ada, Lila and Alice. In 1875 Mr. Moorhead removed from Wapello to Adams County, Iowa, and in 1879 came to Union County, and in 1880 settled on his present farm. His farm contains eighty acres of land, most of which is seeded to grass, and he is principally engaged in stock-raising. He has served as president of the School Board and has held other local offices, and is at present acting as township trustee. He is a member of the Farmers' Alliance. In politics he affiliates with the Greenback party.

ATKINSON HUPP, postoffice, Afton, is one of the enterprising agriculturists of Lincoln Township, engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 25, where he has a fine farm of 120 acres under good cultivation. Mr. Hupp was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, the date of his birth being September 1, 1844. His parents, Isaac and Mary A. (Atkinson) Hupp, were natives of Pennsylvania and Virginia respectively, the father being of German and the mother of Scotch ancestry. Atkinson Hupp was reared a farmer, and has followed that vocation the greater part of his life. He enlisted in the war of the Rebellion in Company F, Sixty-third West Virginia Cavalry, where he served six months, and was then transferred to Company H, First West Virginia Battery. Among the battles in which he participated may be mentioned, Petersburg, Mansfield and New Creek Station, being captured by the enemy at the latter place, and imprisoned most of the time in the Richmond prison. He came West in 1865, and lived in different parts of

Iowa, till he finally settled in Lincoln Township, Union County. He was united in marriage in 1870 to Miss Mary M. Cupp, a daughter of William and Susan Cupp, who were natives of Virginia, Mrs. Hupp having been born in that State in 1853. They are the parents of eight children—Cyrinda, Edward, Rose Ann, Hester V., Charles, Alice, Robert L. and Cyrus W. Mr. Hupp commenced life for himself without capital. He began by working as a farm hand at which he continued until he had accumulated $500. He then purchased a team, and followed farming on rented land for two years, and by the end of the time mentioned he had saved $900, with which he bought a farm. Thus by persevering energy, industry and strict economy he has gained by his own efforts his present fine property in Lincoln Township, and has gained the respect of all who know him. In politics Mr. Hupp affiliates with the Republican party.

CYRUS A. STANCHFIELD, of Creston, is conductor of the fast mail train on the East Iowa Division of the railroad between Burlington and Creston. He has been connected with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad since 1871. He was freight conductor one year, and then transferred to a passenger train. Prior to his engagement with this company he was for six year son the Hannibal & St. Joseph Road. Mr. Stanchfield was born at Auburn, Maine, in the year 1844. October 23, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, Fifteenth Maine Infantry, for three years. He was with his regiment in Louisiana and Texas during the first two and a half years of the war; serving with Butler at New Orleans, and took part in General Banks' Red River campaign. His regiment was a part of the Nineteenth Army Corps, and during the summer and fall of 1864 was with General Sheridan in the Shenandoah campaign, taking part in all the memorable battles of that remarkable campaign. After serving three years and three months he returned to Maine, and in 1865 went to Missouri, and engaged in railroading. Mr. Stanchfield's father, John Stanchfield, is still living. Our subject was married in 1867 to Miss Louisa Reynolds, a native of Monroe, Michigan. Their children are—Lucy, Marion, Luella and Clara. They have a pleasant home at Creston, with surroundings that indicate taste and refinement.

A. R. FULLER, one of the prominent and influential citizens of Creston, Iowa, is a native of the State of New York, born in 1840, a son of Azel J. and Mary C. (Ross) Fuller, and has been a resident of Iowa since 1845. He was left an orphan when but a child, with no means of support except his own earnings, and being early thrown on his own resources learned lessons of independence that have been of benefit to him in all the varied experiences of his life. He made Clayton County his home from 1845 till 1866, and from that county enlisted, September 1, 1861, in the defense of his country in the war of the Rebellion, and was assigned to Company L, Sixth Iowa Cavalry. He enlisted as a private but was promoted for his gallantry, and when mustered out, in 1865, was First Lieutenant of his company, having refused the Captaincy of three other companies. After his return home he engaged in business, a pursuit in which he was very successful, as he is a good salesman, nature having peculiarly endowed him in that direction. In 1876 he embarked in business in Creston. His residence in Creston is one of the finest in town. It is located in the west end. Mr. Fuller is purely a self-made man, his wonderful success, financially, being the result of industry, good management and economical habits. He was married in West Liberty, Muscatine County, Iowa, in 1867, to Mary E. Sharpneck, daugh-

A. R. Fuller

ter of Samuel and Ura (Hise) Sharpneck, natives of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Fuller was born in Salem, Ohio, in 1838. She is a cultured, refined lady, and has always been to her husband a true helpmeet, assisting him in many ways, known only to woman, to attain the degree of prosperity he has now reached, and making his home a haven where he may find, when the busy cares of the day are over, that rest and comfort which the weary man craves, and which, like a spring of water in the desert, refreshes and gives new vigor for the cares to follow. They have two children—Maude and Roy. Mr. Fuller is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Grand Army of the Republic. In religious views both himself and wife are Free Thinkers, and politically he is independent. Although allied to no creed or sect, he is a man of quick, keen perceptions, and his naturally strong mind and moral tendencies make him a man of irreproachable character. He is public-spirited and liberal and is always ready to contribute of his means to assist any worthy object or individual in need of help. In his home he is an affectionate, considerate husband and a kind, indulgent father.

SYLVESTER SWEET, engaged in general farming on section 15, of New Hope Township, is a native of Allegany County, New York, born August 30, 1837, a son of the late Sylvester Sweet, who was also a native of New York, born in Genesee County. In 1842 the parents removed with their family to Henry County, Illinois, and in that county our subject grew to manhood, being reared on a farm, and educated in the common schools. He was a soldier in the late war, enlisting in Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and during his three years' service participated in the battles around Atlanta, Jackson, Tennessee, Champion Hill, Meridian, Kenesaw Mountain, and with Sherman on his march to the sea, and returned home without receiving the slightest wound. He came to Iowa in 1873, remaining till the following year in Warren County, coming to Union County in 1874, and in 1884 settled on the farm which is still his home, where he has eighty acres of well-improved land. Mr. Sweet was united in marriage January 27, 1859, to Miss Amanda J. Moody, a daughter of George Moody, who is deceased. They have a family of three children—Orrin M., Clara A. and George C. Mr. Sweet is a member of the Evangelical church.

S. BAYLESS, druggist, physician and surgeon at Cromwell, was born in Belmont County, Ohio, in 1844. His father, Elihu Bayless, is also a native of Ohio, and is now living in Richelieu County, Wisconsin. He has represented his county in the Legislature several terms; is also a Methodist preacher of considerable note. Before the war he was an able defender of the abolition of American slavery, and at one time on that account, there was a reward offered for his life. He is now sixty-seven years of age. His wife, Emily Wadsworth, was a native of Pennsylvania, and died in 1856, at the age of thirty-seven years. Dr. Bayless was twelve years old when he moved with the family to Wisconsin, where he remained until the war. In 1864 he enlisted in Company D, Eleventh Wisconsin Veteran Infantry Volunteers, and served to the close of that great struggle. Soon afterward, in 1866, he married Miss Rachel, daughter of Arthur and Elizabeth Cook, her father a native of Pennsylvania and her mother of Maryland. In the doctor's family there are now two children—Emily F. and Winnie E. Dr. Bayless came to Union County in 1873, settling on a farm, and in 1876 he entered the drug store in Cromwell, where he carries a well-selected stock of drugs, paints, oils and

sundries. He owns the property, besides a half-interest in the Cromwell Hall building. He commenced reading medicine in 1877, attended the State University of Iowa, and has now been practicing his profession four years, making a specialty of sore eyes, in which he has been signally successful. The doctor is a member of the orders of Free Masons, Odd Fellows and Grand Army of the Republic.

JAY D. SPAULDING has the honor of being the first settler of Spaulding Township, and for that reason this division of the county received his name. He was born near Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York, December 27, 1841. His father, Dwelly Spaulding, was born in Connecticut, and when a young man he removed to Eastern New York, where he married Cynthia Woolworth, also a native of Connecticut; they died in Onondaga County, New York, where they had resided for many years. They had eight children—five sons and three daughters, of whom the subject of this notice was the youngest. Four sons and one daughter are living. Mr. Spaulding was reared in his native county to the occupation of farming. For a time after becoming of age he was engaged in mercantile business at Syracuse, but determined to enter agricultural pursuits. Land being high in the old States of the East, he resolved to go West; and accordingly, in the spring of 1866, he started westward for Missouri. Passing through this county on his journey, he was pleased with the appearance of the prairies in this part of the county, now Spaulding Township, and decided to locate here. The nearest railroad station to this place at that time was Des Moines. On his way West, while at Michigan City, Indiana, he was joined by Mr. Elmer J. Emmons, an acquaintance from boyhood, and they came on together. Crossing the Mississippi River at Davenport, they came thence on foot, along an irregular route, as their object was to see the country, and determine the most desirable place to locate, reaching this vicinity about the middle of June. No settlement had been made here in this part of the county. Struck by the beauty of this section, they resolved to locate here. Mr. Spaulding's first purchase of land was the northwest quarter of section 11, and also a wood lot, which comprised the northeast quarter of section 5, in Lincoln Township. Here he made the first improvements in Spaulding Township. At various times afterward he bought other lands in the township. Several years later he sold the prairie he first purchased to Mr. E. J. Emmons, who still owns it. He now resides on the southwest quarter of section 1, while his farm comprises the south half of section 1, the north half of section 12, and the southeast of section 11. He also owns in other parts of the township 400 acres, besides 240 acres in Lincoln Township, having altogether 1,420 acres, the most of which cost him but $5 per acre, and none more than $10 an acre. His first experience was in grain-raising, and he gradually passed into stock-raising, having for a number of years past made a specialty of hogs. He deals also extensively in grain and hay. In all the above enterprises he has been eminently successful. Mr. Spaulding was married to Mattie Palmer, a native of Onondaga County, New York, and they have one son, named Elmer, who was born in June, 1880.

THOMAS L. MAXWELL, of the firm of Maxwell & Leonard, attorneys at law, settled in Creston in September, 1883, and commenced the practice of his profession in that city. He was for a time a member of the law firm of Ettien, Spurrier & Maxwell. Later the firm became Spurrier & Maxwell. His next partnership was the present one—

Maxwell & Leonard—which was established in 1875. The office is on Adams street in the Mallory Block. Mr. Maxwell was born in Harrison County, Ohio, in the year 1851, and when he became a lad his father, Thomas Maxwell, removed to McDonough County, Illinois. Here Mr. Maxwell attained mature manhood. He began the study of law in the year 1870, at Rushville, that State, in a county adjoining McDonough. With his legal studies he alternated the teaching of school until 1874, when he was admitted to the bar at Afton, in Union County; but he began practice at Corning, Adams County, Iowa, where he continued until he came to Creston. While a resident of Corning he represented Adams County in the Nineteenth General Assembly of Iowa, having been elected by the Greenback party. He is now (October, 1886,) the candidate of his party for district judge. Intellectually he possesses more than ordinary ability; as a lawyer he has attained a high reputation; as a speaker he is fluent and forcible, and as exponent of the principles of his party he is able and gives satisfaction to all his friends. After becoming a citizen of Union County Mr. Maxwell married Miss Lucy Fish, of Beardstown, Illinois. His present law partner, Mr. Leonard, is a young man of much promise; was born in Johnson County, Iowa, in 1860; has had the advantages of a liberal education, graduating at the Iowa State University in the class of '81, and in the law department of that same institution in 1883.

D. BLOSSER, blacksmith and wagon and carriage maker at Cromwell, is commanding a large trade on account of his superior workmanship and honest dealing. He was born in Hocking County, Ohio, in 1859. His father, David Blosser, was a native of Virginia, and his mother, Elizabeth McBroom, of Ohio. They are now living in Kansas. He grew up to years of maturity on the farm in his native county. In 1876 he came West and located upon a farm in this county, where for three years he pursued the vocation in which he was trained; then, in 1879, he hired to work at the blacksmith's trade in Cromwell, for William L. Morford, and in 1885 bought out Mr. Morford's interest. Besides the shop, 24 x 70 feet, he owns a house and four lots. He is esteemed by the community as a first-class citizen. He was married in 1883, in this county, to Ella Peak, daughter of Mordecai Peak. She was born in Illinois, in October, 1860. By this marriage there are two children—Ray and Harry. Mr. Blosser had seven brothers and sisters; two of the former were killed in the late war. His grandfather on his mother's side was a soldier in the war of 1812.

WILLIAM CHIPMAN, a prominent and influential citizen of Grant Township, engaged in farming and stock-raising, on section 28, was born in Kentucky, November 9, 1849, his parents, William and R. Chipman, being natives of the same State. He was reared to the avocation of a farmer, remaining on the home farm in his native State till the year 1871, since which he has made his home in Union County, Iowa. He was married in 1871, to Miss Minnie Lucas, a daughter of R. and Annie E. Lucas, who were natives of Kentucky. To Mr. and Mrs. Chipman have been born eight children—Eddie, Walter, William, Annie, Myrtle, Mary, Richard and one who died in early infancy. Mr. Chipman bought his present farm when he came to Union County, which at that time was entirely unimproved. It now contains 160 acres of well-improved land under good cultivation, with comfortable residence and farm buildings, noticeably good. Mr. Chipman is one of the public spirited men of Grant Township, and during his residence here has filled acceptably various township

and school offices. In politics he is identified with the Democratic party. Both he and his wife have been connected with the Methodist Episcopal church since sixteen years of age, and are among its worthy and active members.

T. ALLEN, of the firm of Allen & Bush, dealers in books, stationery, etc., came to Creston in 1879. He is a native of Vermont, and resided there until twenty years of age, when he came to Iowa. His father, J. Haskell Allen, still resides in Vermont. Mr. Allen married Miss Florence Tollers, daughter of Colonel Enoch Tollers. The business house of Allen & Bush was established in 1879, by Fahnestock & Fuller, of Galesburg, Illinois, who were succeeded by the present firm, September 1, 1880. Their store is located on the corner of Maple and Montgomery streets. Their store-room is 64 x 30 feet, and complete in all its appointments. Mr. Allen has entire charge of the business, his partner, Mr. E. J. Bush, being vice-president of the First National Bank, and devoting his attention to his duties there. They keep a complete stock of books, stationery, wall paper, fancy goods, etc., everything usually kept in a first-classs store.

W. H. HARRISON, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 20, Douglas Township, where he owns 160 acres of well-improved land. He was born in Peoria County, Illinois, in 1838. His parents, Isaac and Sarah (Nicholson) Harrison, natives respectively of England and Virginia, came from the latter State to Illinois in a very early day. The father is still living in Fulton County, that State, and the mother is deceased. Mr. Harrison of this sketch lived in Peoria until the year 1856; from that time to 1875 he was a resident of Galva, Henry County, same State; then he settled in Union County. It was in Galva that he was married, in 1860, to Miss Orpha A., daughter of Daniel and Keturah (Burd) Carroll, who was born in 1844, in New Jersey. The children in Mr. Harrison's family are Willie H. (deceased), Elmer E., Isabel, Walter S., Mary E., Harry C., Pearlie, Chattie, Frances E. and Evalyn—ten in all. When Mr. Harrison came with his family to the place that is now his home it was only prairie sod, with no improvement whatever, not so much as a hitching-post. There was not a tree or shrub on the place; but by perseverance and hard labor he has, with the help of his family, turned it into a well-cultivated and productive farm and pleasant home.

JOSEPH JAMES, farmer and stock-raiser, section 2, Highland Township, is a native of Ohio, born in Athens County, December 30, 1835. His father, John James, was a native of Maine, and moved to Ohio when a young man. In 1847 he located in Morgan County, where he died, in 1873. Joseph James was reared a farmer, receiving a good education in the common schools. In 1855 he came to the State of Iowa, and lived two years in Jones County, and in 1857 removed to Appanoose County, where he was living on the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion. He enlisted in the defense of his country, and was assigned to Company I, Third Iowa Cavalry, and served over three years. He participated in the battles at West Plains, Grand Glaze, Bayou Couch, Warm Fork of Spring River, Tupelo, Mississippi, the siege of Vicksburg and others of minor importance. He received a sunstroke near Jackson, Mississippi, which disabled him for active service for nearly a year. After his discharge from the army he returned to Appanoose County, where he lived until 1879, when, in January, he moved to Union County.

and settled in Pleasant Township. He moved to the farm where he now lives in 1885. It contains eighty acres of valuable land, and his building improvements are commodious and comfortable. In addition to attending to his farm he is engaged in blacksmithing, which is a great convenience to the neighboring farmers. Mr. James was married July 27, 1857, to Martha R., daughter of Augustus C. Boyer. To them have been born twelve children, but eight of whom are living—Ida E., Eddie N., Ethel L., Oviett B., Renna O., Olive E., Martha C. and Clemma B. Mr. James is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He and his wife are members of the Christian church.

RICHARD H. JOHNSTON, physician and surgeon, and the present efficient postmaster of Cromwell, was born in Huron County, Ohio, May 20, 1836, a son of the late Dr. Thomas Johnston, who was a native of Pennsylvania. The father settled in Huron County, Ohio, in 1835, and for many years practiced medicine in New Haven, that county. Our subject attended lectures in the medical college at Albany, New York, and at the Western Reserve College, at Cleveland, Ohio. He came to Iowa in 1857, and settled at Garden Grove, Decatur County, where he began the practice of medicine, in August, 1858, following it at that place until August, 1861. He then helped to raise Company L, Third Iowa Cavalry, and enlisted as a private in the same company. He was appointed Surgeon at Rolla, Missouri, and was stationed at Salem, Missouri, about ten months. He then joined his regiment on their raid through Arkansas. He joined his company at Lebanon, Missouri, in the fall of 1862, and was engaged in doing guard and scout duty about a year. He then joined General Totten's command at Springfield, Missouri, but soon after returned to General Warren's command, at Houston, Missouri. He then went to Potosi, Missouri, where he was on guard duty some time, and while there he helped to drive Marmaduke from that State. He was detailed as hospital steward at a small town about twenty-five miles east of Little Rock, and finally was left there as Surgeon, by the removal of the Surgeon over him. While there they had some trouble with bushwhackers, although none of the Union men were killed by them. Dr. Johnston subsequently went to Little Rock, thence to Benton, Arkansas, where he joined his regiment, and was soon after detailed Hospital Steward of the Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, and served in that capacity on the Red River expedition, after which he was ordered back to Memphis, and was discharged at Keokuk, Iowa, in October, 1864, when he returned to his home, broken down in health. He was married June 7, 1865, to Miss Frances Burns, daughter of William Burns, of Garden Grove, Iowa. They have five children—Edward, Thomas W., Eliza G., Marjerie and Charles R. Dr. Johnston came to Union County in 1870, and settled at Cromwell, where he has since built up a lucrative practice, and has gained the respect and confidence of all who know him. Dr. Johnston was appointed postmaster July 1, 1885, on the resignation of Dr. Henderson. He is a member of both the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders, and also belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic.

SAMUEL F. HARVEY, section 17, Lincoln Township, was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, June 26, 1835, a son of Alexander and Ann (Foreman) Harvey, his father a native of Pennsylvania, and his mother of West Virginia. In 1847 his parents moved to West Virginia, and in that State he lived until 1867, when he came to Iowa, and located in Mahaska County. In 1877 he moved to Union County, and settled

in Lincoln Township, where he has since lived. He owns 240 acres of choice land, all well cultivated, and his residence and farm buildings are commodious and comfortable. His educational advantages were limited in his youth, but by making the best of his opportunities he obtained a practical education and fitted himself for the activities of business life. He was married January 26, 1860, to Miss Jane Gibson, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, daughter of William Harvey. To them were born ten children—Margaret A., Eda E., Franklin W., David G., William G., Alton A., deceased, Harry O., Thomas S., Rhoda B. and Bertha M. Mr. Harvey has been a prominent citizen of his township, always taking an active interest in its public affairs, and has held different positions of trust, among others being road supervisor and school director. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity a number of years.

W. J. JAMESON, conductor on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, has been a resident of Creston since the fall of 1870, when it was an initial point, at which time he became connected with the railroad company. He began his services as yard-master, and occupied that position until the fall of 1877, when he became conductor on a freight train between Creston and Council Bluffs. In 1883 he assumed the duties of conductor on a passenger train between the same points. Mr. Jameson was born in New Brunswick, near the boundary line between that Province and the State of Maine, in 1847. His father, C. S. Jameson, is of Scotch origin, and still lives in New Brunswick, his grandfather also living in the same country. He began railroading in 1867, on the New Brunswick & Canada Railroad. In May, 1870, he engaged with the Sioux City & Pacific Railroad Company, and in the autumn of that year engaged with the present company and came to Creston. During his long experience his train has not met with an accident of any kind, which, considering the length of time he has been on the road, speaks well for his caution and efficiency. He was married at Flint, Michigan, in 1873, to Miss Hattie M. Wing, who died in 1884, leaving three children—Charles P., Guy and G. Janie. In 1885 he married Miss Ella Glass, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and they have one child—Iowa Vesta.

ISAAC MANN, postoffice Kent, is one of the public-spirited citizens of Platte Township, and an active and enterprising agriculturist, living on section 16. He is a son of David and Sarah (Sickles) Mann, who were natives of the State of Pennsylvania, and subsequently came to Union County, where the father lived till his death, in 1886. The mother is still living, being now eighty-six years of age. The father being a farmer, our subject was reared to the same occupation, and has made farming his life work. He was united in marriage to Miss Susan Deaver, who was born in 1835, a native of Ohio, her parents, John S. and Mary Deaver, being natives of Pennsylvania. To this union were born the following children—John D., born February 4, 1856; Sarah, born April 2, 1857; Caroline, born January 29, 1859; a twin of Caroline died June 31, 1859; Lavina J., born July 20, 1861; Mary, born August 13, 1865; Susannah Edith, born October 27, 1868; Isaac, Jr., born December 16, 1870; Cora B., born September 5, 1872; Laura, born January 1, 1875; Rollin, born September 13, 1876, and Bertha E., born August 10, 1880. Mr. Mann served his country three years during the late war, being a member of Company D., Seventy-fifth Ohio Infantry. He

took part in a number of hard-fought battles including Fort Donelson, Franklin, Cross Keys, Sulphur Springs, and second battle of Bull Run. He was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, receiving an honorable discharge December 14, 1864, when he returned to his home. In 1870 he came to Union County, Iowa, when he settled on the farm in Platte Township which has been his home. His farm contains eighty acres of choice land, a good, substantial house, and farm buildings, a fine orchard, and about 125 grape vines. In politics Mr. Mann is identified with the Republican party. He is a comrade of Post No. 316, G. A. R., of Lenox, Iowa. Both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren church.

REV. JOSEPH PEERY, a farmer and stock-raiser, of Grant Township, resides on section 2, where he owns a good farm of eighty acres. He is a native of Illinois, born in Clark County, September 28, 1822, a son of John and Nancy (Long) Peery, who were natives of Tennessee. His father died June 19, 1877, and his mother is still living in Ringgold County, Iowa, in the eighty-fifth year of her age. His parents moved from Tennessee to Illinois and lived there until 1836, when they moved to Indiana. His grandfather Peery had seven workhorses stolen in one night by the rangers during the war of 1812. April 24, 1844, our subject was married to Miss Adaline Brown. He lived in Indiana six years after his marriage, and in 1850 moved to Muscatine County, Iowa, where they lived until April, 1853, when they started for Black Hawk County, but on account of a severe snow storm they were obliged to stop in Cedar County, and rented a farm, on which they lived until the following February. They then went to Black Hawk County, and settled on Poyner Creek, in a little pole house. He took a claim which he afterward sold for $50, and entered forty acres of land and built a house, which was the first house they owned. In September, 1865, they sold their property in Black Hawk County and moved to Union County, locating where they now live. Mr. Peery commenced life a poor man, working at 25 cents a day, but by economy and good management he has been successful, and now has a good and comfortable home. In 1867 he was licensed a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church. He is superintendent of the Sunday-school, a position he has held twelve years. In his politics he is independent, voting for men not party. To Mr. and Mrs. Peery were born the following children—John W., Louisa, Samuel Milton, Sarah E., George D., Jennie and James. John W. enlisted in the war of the Rebellion, in 1862, and was assigned to Company D, Thirty-first Iowa Infantry, and died at Vicksburg, January 28, 1863.

EDWARD HENDERSON, physician and surgeon at Cromwell, was born in Jefferson County, Iowa, in 1850. His father, H. M. Henderson, was a native of North Carolina, of Scotch descent, and his mother, Laodicea Baird, was born in Ohio, of German and Irish descent; they are still residents of that county, where they were pioneers, highly-respected citizens. In their family of seven children, Dr. Henderson, our subject, is the second in order of birth. He grew up to the years of manhood on the farm in his native county. At the age of eighteen years he went to Wisconsin, and engaged in clerking in a general store. After attending school two years he began the study of medicine under Dr. Newsome, of Batavia, Iowa, and after remaining with him a year he attended the medical college at Keokuk, Iowa, two years, graduating in 1873; commenced the practice of his chosen calling at Batavia, within four miles of where he was brought up, and during the five years of his practice

there he won a large patronage, although in competition with three old physicians. In 1879 he removed to his present place of residence, where he has an extensive practice, and bids fair to rise much higher in his profession. In Cromwell, besides his house and lot, the doctor owns two blocks except one lot; was postmaster from 1882 to 1885; is a member of the School Board, and in politics a Republican. He was married June 20, 1871, to Miss Alice, daughter of Archibald and Eliza Caldwell, natives of Vermont, where she was born in 1856. They have one child—Bertha E.

MRS. MARILLA M. DOTY is a native of Evans, New York, a daughter of Harmon and Lois Barber, natives of England, and descendants of the royal family. Her paternal grandmother was a Gould, and her maternal grandmother was a member of the royal family. Her father was a sea captain. He was born in 1812, and was just two weeks old when the war of 1812–'15 broke out, his parents at that time living in Canada. He was the first wool grower in Wyoming County, New York, and was also an extensive manufacturer of cheese. He made two of the largest cheeses ever exhibited, one weighing 1,500 and the other 1,000 pounds. After taking a number of premiums at fairs the largest one was shipped to Liverpool, and was sold at $1 per pound. Our subject was married October 3, 1841, to Philander Doty, a native of New York, born in 1824. To them have been born four children—Franklin H., Ella F., William E., and Lois. Franklin married Ella M. Miller and has one child, Eddie P. Lois is the wife of Ellis Shaw, a son of Judge Henry Shaw of Eaton County, Michigan, and a graduate from the medical department of the Ann Arbor University. For a number of years he was a conductor on the Michigan Central Railroad, and at present, in partnership with Mrs. Doty, is running the Metropolitan restaurant. Mrs. Doty came to Iowa and located in Creston, in 1877, and in 1879 built the first good hotel in the place, on the south side of Pine Street, at a cost of $7,000, which she still owns, and also owns a dry-goods and grocery store which is in charge of her son. Mrs. Doty is an educated, refined lady, a graduate of a college in her native State. She is a kind, indulgent mother, and a thoughtful, loving wife, a good neighbor and friend, generous, giving freely of her time and means to promote the best interests of the community. She is an untiring worker, and her efforts have been crowned with success. In her business transactions she is strictly honorable, and has many friends. Mr. Doty has been a fireman on the railroad twenty-nine years. In politics he and his sons are Republicans.

D. M. BOTLEMAN, a pioneer of Union County, and among the thorough, practical farmers of Grant Township, where he resides, on section 30, was born February 4, 1834, a son of Christian and Dorcas (Alexander) Botleman, the father a native of Pennsylvania, and the mother born in the State of Virginia, both now deceased. Our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, and in his youth received a fair education, and after leaving school taught for several terms. He remained in his native State till attaining his majority, when he immigrated to Union County, Iowa, and settled on the farm where he has since made his home, improving it from a wild state. He was married December 10, 1857, to Miss Minerva Swearngen, who was born November 5, 1834, a daughter of J. and M. Swearngen who were both born in the State of Pennsylvania. To Mr. and Mrs. Botleman have been born five children—Matilda J., born November 13, 1858, married Frank Banning, and has one child, Bertie,

who was born May 6, 1879; Lizzie E., born August 28, 1860, is the wife of Herman Tallman; E. S., born April 28, 1862; John W., born March 21, 1867, died August 30, 1869, and Arthur N., born March 13, 1869. Mr. Botleman has now one of the best farms in Grant Township, containing 160 acres of well-improved land, under a high state of cultivation. He has about three acres of land devoted to his orchard, and a fine maple grove, the seed of which was planted by himself. His residence is comfortable and commodious, and his farm buildings are noticeably good.

MARTENS, dealer in groceries, queensware, flour, feed, cigars and tobacco, 216 Union street, Creston, opened there in 1876, where he carries about $1,500 worth of stock, and sells annually about $15,000 worth, employing one clerk and two boys. He was born in Holland, in 1830, the son of Martin and Gertie Martens, natives also of that country. He immigrated to America in 1849, first settling in Wisconsin, where he remained eight years. He has generally followed house-painting, employing clerks to run his grocery previous to entering it himself. He owns the business block and four houses and lots. He was married in Green Bay, Wisconsin, in 1862, to Johanna Van Beak, who also was born in Holland, and they have five children living—Theodore, Frank, Kittie, Henry and John. Mr. Martens is a member of the Catholic church.

JOHN BENJAMIN WRAY, residing on section 31 of Lincoln Township, is an Englishman by birth, being born in Lincolnshire, August 1, 1848. In 1851 his father, Benjamin Wray, who is also a native of Lincolnshire, England, came to America with his family, and first settled in the State of Ohio, removing to St. Joseph County, Indiana, in the spring of 1852, where he remained till 1857. In the fall of that year he came to Union County, Iowa, and settled in Highland Township, which has since been his home. John B. Wray, whose name heads this sketch was but nine years of age when he accompanied his parents to this county, and here he grew to manhood, being reared on the home farm, and receiving his education in the common schools of the county, and while living in Highland Township served two terms as assessor with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He is now engaged in farming and stock-raising on his fine farm in Lincoln Township, where he has 320 acres. He is also meeting with good success in dealing in stock, which he ships to Chicago, Illinois, and Ottumwa, Iowa. He is one of the public-spirited citizens of his township, and is always interested in the advancement of any enterprise for the good of the community.

WILLIAM D. McDONALD, of Creston, has been a resident of Union County since the spring of 1869, first locating at Afton. He was born in Madison County, Ohio, in 1837, where he grew to manhood. His father, John McDonald, was a native of Tennessee. When he was four years old his parents removed to Madison County, where he spent the rest of his life, dying December 25, 1888. In 1854 he came to Union County, and entered about 2,500 acres of land, which remained unimproved until the laying out of Creston, in 1869. This land included the east part of the city plat. The greater part of the land is still in possession of the family. W. D. McDonald was the first to come to the county after the land was entered by his father. He came to Afton in 1869, and has since that time been engaged in the real-estate business, and dealing in stock. He bought and shipped stock at Afton for about ten years. He came to Cre-

ton in 1881. He still owns over a 1,000 acres of land in Union County, most of which is improved, and he has about 200 head of cattle. His general business is that of a land and stock-broker. The next member of the family that came to Union County was Albert S., who came in 1874. He located at Creston, and laid out McDonald's addition to the city. He died at Creston in 1882, leaving a wife and daughter who still reside here. James McDonald came to Union County in 1884, and lives in Spaulding Township. A sister, Mrs. Sarah A. Bickers, came soon after William came. She is the wife of Nathan C. Bickers of Creston. William D. McDonald was married in Ohio to Lura Huckill, a native also of Madison County. They have no children, but have reared several from childhood. Mr. McDonald is of Scotch ancestry, his paternal grandfather having come from Scotland when a child. The family settled in Tennessee. John McDonald and wife had eleven children—six sons and five daughters. Three sons and four daughters are living. Politically Mr. McDonald is a Republican.

ALFRED KENT, farmer and stock-raiser on section 23, Pleasant Township, was born in Lagrange County, Indiana, in 1843, son of Kencel and Sarah Ann (Chase) Kent, natives respectively of Connecticut and Indiana, who settled in this county in 1854; the former died in 1873, aged seventy-five. Mr. Kent, the subject of this sketch, enlisted in the late war in 1862, Company H, Twenty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served until August, 1865, when he was mustered out at Davenport. He was married in this county, in 1865, to Miss Mima Jane, daughter of George and Rachel Vandyne. Her mother's maiden name was Reasoner. The children in this family are—Oscar E., Merrill C., Addie I., Maria L. and Mary Emma. Mr. Kent has held some of the minor school and township offices where he resides; is a member of Hopeville Lodge, No. 306, I. O. O. F., and Republican in his political views, and highly esteemed as a gentleman and citizen in his community. When he commenced in life for himself he had only a team of horses and but limited means to commence housekeeping; with savings from an army life and by hard work and help from his father's estate of 200 acres, he has accumulated 600 acres of land, and well stocked. Postoffice, Hopeville, Clarke County, Iowa.

P. BUTTS, of the firm of Butts & Foster, druggists, corner of Union and Maple streets, Creston, was born in 1844, in Dutchess County, New York, his parents being Willard and Elizabeth (Potter) Butts, the former a native of the same State and the latter of Connecticut. When nine years of age, however, our subject was brought to Bureau County, Illinois, where he lived until 1870, when he came to Creston, operating in the grocery business seven months; next he was for a time a traveling agent for the McCormick Reaper Company; then worked for a railroad company two years, restaurant and bakery four years, the hardware business several years, and finally, in April 1886, he entered his present position. He also owns several houses and lots in Creston, and a quarter-section of well-improved land in Ringgold County, Iowa. In 1872 he was assessor of his town and township, in 1873 city assessor, in 1885 city treasurer. He is a Republican in his political sentiment. As a citizen he is loyal and upright, and has the fullest esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens; is social, genial and not above noticing merit in its most unpretending forms. In 1864 he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Fifty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served eleven months and twenty days, being mustered out at Camp

Butler, Illinois. He was married in 1868, in Bureau County, Illinois, to Elsie Waterman, who was born in Kendall, in 1849. Their seven children are Lena, William, Ida, Benjamin, Harry, and Frank and Jessie (twins).

JAMES GALT, a partner of William Scott, of Creston, in the grain and live-stock business at Cromwell, was born in Ireland in 1856. His parents, Uriah and Jane Galt, were also natives of the "Green Isle." The father is still living, in Burlington, Iowa; and the mother died, in 1865. Mr. Galt immigrated to America with his father, settled in Adams County in 1878, and in 1880 came to Union County engaging, in his present business, in which he handles about sixty car-loads annually, sometimes 100 car-loads. He owns 160 acres of land in Adams County. Besides a fair, common-school education, he had no means with which to start in life, and is therefore, financially, a self-made man. In his political views he is a Republican. He was married in 1884, in Cromwell, to Miss Madge Long, daughter of D. P. and Lovina Long.

WILLIAM H. HAMMANS, a prosperous and enterprising agriculturist of New Hope Township, living on section 9, is a native of Iowa, born in Jefferson County, near Glasgow, January 2, 1851, a son of James Hammans, a native of Virginia, who has been a resident of Jefferson County for many years. Our subject was reared on the home farm in his native county, receiving good educational advantages, completing his education at Whittier College of Salem, Iowa. He came to Union County, Iowa, in the spring of 1875, where he has since made his home, and during his residence here he has gained the confidence and respect of all who know him. Mr. Hammans was united in marriage September 7, 1880, to Miss Myrta M. Groesbeck, a daughter of William Groesbeck, a prominent citizen of New Hope Township. They are the parents of three children—Roy F., Clauson and Ralph. Mr. Hammans has always followed agricultural pursuits, and by his industry and good business qualities he has prospered beyond his expectations, and has now a fine property, his home farm in New Hope Township containing 320 acres of choice land, beside which he owns a farm of 240 acres in Pottawatomie County. Mr. Hammans in his religious views is a Baptist.

WILLIAM H. H. DEVOL, farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 28, Spaulding Township, where he owns 120 acres of well-improved land. He was born in Washington County, Ohio, in 1840, and is a son of Alpha and Avis Devol, both parents of French descent; ancestors immigrated to America about four generations back. His immediate parents died in Ohio, their native State. They had four children, William H. H., being the eldest. He has all his life been a successful farmer, although his opportunities for an early school education were limited by the meagerness of the subscription schools of pioneer times. He came West in 1862, first settling in Rock Island County, Illinois, where he remained eight years. During his life he has been honored by his fellow citizens with the office of township trustee, member of the School Board, school treasurer, etc. Mr. Devol started in life poor, dropping corn at 10 cents a day, then working for 25 cents a day, then $8 a month, $11 a month, and so on. In the fall of 1867 he immigrated to Missouri, reaching Chariton County on the 6th of November, but not being suited with the country moved to McDonough, Illinois, the following spring and remained in Illinois until the 12th of

August, 1870, when he started for Union County, Iowa, where he has since remained. He broke prairie the first season for W. K. Syp, of Afton. The next three seasons he rented land, buying and breaking his own land in 1874, on which he moved in the year of 1875. Assisted by his faithful companion in life, he has accumulated all he owns; is a man of fair dealing and high esteem. He was married in Rock Island, Rock Island County, Illinois, January 20, 1863, to Miss Florence A., daughter of Joseph and Edner (Penny) Loughery, both natives of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Devol are the parents of seven children—Elmer E., Frank H., Clara E., Joseph E. and three deceased—Ella, Charles and an unnamed infant. Postoffice, Creston.

J. H. BRUNING, son of William and Catherine Bruning, is a native of Germany, born November 10, 1832. He was reared to the vocation of a farmer, his father being a farmer by occupation. He remained in his native country till he was twenty-two years of age, and in March, 1855, sailed from Liverpool, England, for America, landing at New Orleans. He first located in St. Joseph, Missouri, but remained there only a short time, when he came to Union County, Iowa, and has since made his present farm his home. For his wife he married Miss Mamie A. Richardson, February 26, 1862, a Kentuckian by birth, born September 26, 1833, a daughter of Aaron and Elizabeth Richardson, her father born in Kentucky, and her mother a native of Virginia. They have two children by adoption—Jennie E. Ames, born September 6, 1868, and Thomas J. Ames, born September 17, 1871. Mr. Bruning came to Union County in its pioneer days, and has been one of its most active and public-spirited citizens, taking an interest in every enterprise calculated to prove of benefit to his township or county, and during his residence here has won the respect of all who know him by his industrious habits and quiet, unassuming manners. He has met with success in his agricultural pursuits, being classed among the best farmers of Platte Township, where he has a fine farm of 180 acres on section 33, and is still actively engaged in farming and stock-raising. Politically he casts his suffrage with the Democratic party.

G. S. MILLARD is the manager and a member of the lumber firm of George Palmer & Co. The present company assumed control of this yard in November, 1884, succeeding the National Lumber Company, located on the corner of Division and Montgomery streets. Mr. Millard is the only member of the firm who resides in Creston. He came from Shenandoah, Iowa, where he had been dealing in lumber two years. He was born in Lawrence, Henry County, Illinois, in 1857. His parents removed to St. Joseph County, where he lived until 1873, when he went to Nashua, Chickasaw County, Iowa; thence to Milwaukee, and kept books for a wholesale lumber firm, and remained until 1882. He was married to Laura Lull, born in Jones County, daughter of C. H. Lull, of Anamosa, a merchant of that place. They have one son—John L., born in 1885.

J. N. TORREY, M. D., settled in Creston in September, 1875. He was born in the State of New York, July 2, 1846. While a small boy, his parents removed to Pike County, Illinois. He obtained his early education in the public schools of Pittsfield, Illinois, and also attended college in Lincoln County, Missouri. He began the study of medicine under Dr. John Hodgen, one of the most eminent physicians in the city of St. Louis, and graduated at the St. Louis

B. M. Torrey. M. D.

Medical College in 1873. He was assistant physician in the St. Louis City Hospital for two years, coming to Creston from that institution. He has now been in practice about twelve years, and has built up a successful and lucrative practice, and has established an enviable reputation as a careful and reliable physician and surgeon. Dr. Torrey is one of the surgeons of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. He is a member of the State Medical Association; also of the Society of Physicians and Surgeons of Southern Iowa. In 1877 he married Miss Flora E. Reed, a native of Illinois. They have two sons—Harry N., born October 7, 1880, and Burt E., born May 14, 1884.

JAMES S. LYTLE, section 17, Douglas Township, owns forty acres of land, where he is occupied in agriculture. He was born in York County, Pennsylvania, in 1806, his parents being George and Elizabeth Lytle, natives also of the Keystone State. He resided in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, until 1850, when he immigrated to Ohio, and in 1855 he came to Union County, at what is known as "Lytle's Grove." He was married in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1840, to Catharine Flesh, who was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, in 1816. They have had twelve children, five are living, —Annie E. is the wife of John Davis, and has eight children—Edward C., Ada L., William R., Bertie D., Frank, Clyde, Ray and Maud; Caroline B., who married John Elliott, of Union County, and has three children—Leonard, Gladys and Harry; Alice, wife of B. K. Berry, who has two children. Cora, wife of Thomas Hood, has two children—Herbert and George E.; and Hattie, adopted. George, John, Ann E., Edith, Francis, Mary and William are deceased. Mr. Lytle has been a member of the Board of Supervisors ten years, justice of the peace eight years, and held all the other offices of his township. Politically, he is a Democrat. He kept hotel at Lytle's Grove from 1855 onward for many years.

JAMES WALTERS, farmer, section 11, Pleasant Township, postoffice Thayer, is a son of David and Mary (Dougherty) Walters, of Van Wert County, Ohio, where they both died, and where the father was a prominent farmer. James was born in Ross County, that State, August 4, 1817, and grew to manhood on his father's farm, receiving but a limited education. He came to Union County in 1865, locating upon the farm where he now resides. He started in life with no means except a capital of energy and determination and skill, and with this he has accumulated a handsome amount of property, owning now 152 acres of land, good, and well furnished with buildings, improvements, etc. In whatever he has undertaken he has been earnest, and labored with unceasing energy, and in all public enterprises he has been ready to assist. He is a Republican in his political views, and both himself and wife are members of the Christian church. His first marriage occurred in 1842, in Van Wert County, Ohio, to Amanda Harter, who was born in Miami County, that State, and died in 1843. By that marriage there was one child—Mary M., the wife of James Huntsinger. In 1848 Mr. Walters married Margaret White, of Ohio, who died in 1876, and Mr. Walters, for a third wife, married, July 9, 1878, Mrs. Celestia R. Ashley, the daughter of Amos Himes, of Vermont. She was the widow of Franklin Ashley, by whom she had two children—one deceased and Milton T., who married Ella Osmond. They have three boys—Lyman B., Henry R. and Ernest O. Mrs. Walters was born in Pennsylvania, in 1825. Mr. Ashley died in 1876.

Mr. Walters reared an adopted son, taking him when six months old, and Wesley Walters is now a prominent farmer of Pleasant Township, Union County. He married Lizzie L. Jackson, and has four children—Carrie G., James W., Jesse L. and Nellie I.

WILLIAM CADY, who is engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 30, of Dodge Township, is a native of the State of New York, born near Amsterdam, May 3, 1827, his father, Daniel Cady, who is now deceased, having been a native of that State. Our subject, when a young man worked at saw-milling, but has made farming the principal vocation of his life. He was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Crawford, who was born in Madison County, New York, their marriage taking place July 5, 1861. Mr. Cady went to California in the year 1877, remaining in that State until 1879, when he came to Union County, Iowa, where he has since made his home, locating on his present farm, on section 30, Dodge Township, in the spring of 1885, where he has seventy-six acres of well-cultivated land. Quiet, unassuming, industrious and honorable in all his dealing Mr. Cady has gained the confidence and respect of all with whom he has business or social intercourse.

NEWMAN, dealer in clothing, hats, caps, furnishing and merchant-tailoring goods, located on the corner of Adams and Maple streets in 1874, where he carries a large and well-selected assortment of goods in his line, the stock amounting to $2,000, and sales to about $45,000 annually. He has nine employes. Mr. Newman was born in Germany, in 1843, his parents being F. and Rachel Newman, also natives of the "Fatherland." Immigrating to this country in 1860, he has resided in Minnesota and Nebraska, most of the time in Plattsmouth, Nebraska. He came to Union County in 1874 from Council Bluffs. He started out in life for himself with but little, but he has prospered, and withal has been liberal. He has held the offices of school director, treasurer five years, member of the School Board, and in Plattsmouth was alderman, in 1871–'2, and member of the School Board. In his voting he is an independent Democrat; is a member of the orders of Odd Fellows and Free Masons, being in the latter the recorder of Commandery Lodge, No. 324. He was married in Council Bluffs, Iowa, in 1876, to Sadie Danlaum, who was born in Amsterdam, New York, in 1856. They have two boys—Milton B. and Joseph L.

R. WOLFE, one of the pioneer settlers of Grant Township, and an active farmer and stock-raiser, residing on section 25, is a native of Ashland County, Ohio, born January 13, 1836, his parents, D. and E. Wolfe, being natives of the State of Maryland. He was reared to a farm life, remaining on the home farm till attaining the age of twenty-one years. He then began life on his own account, coming to Iowa, and locating in Washington County, in 1857. He subsequently returned to Ohio and was married to Miss Rebecca Nickol, a native of Pennsylvania, born August 4, 1843, a daughter of John and Jennie (Thompson) Nickol, who were natives of the same State. To this union have been born seven children—William M., Jessie M., Charles F., Lillie M., Lavina L., deceased, Bertie A. and John A. Mr. Wolfe came to Union County, Iowa, after his marriage, and has met with success during his residence here. His home farm now contains 280 acres of choice land, all well improved and under cultivation. Mr. Wolfe is one of the active and public-spirited citizens of Grant Township, and is always interested in every

enterprise which tends toward the advancement of his township or county. In politics he is a Democrat. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Wolfe is devoting considerable attention to stock-raising, and is making a specialty of short-horn cattle and Clyde-dale horses. He owns a half interest in a fine Clydesdale horse, Mr. Bilderback being associated with him.

F. M. REIMER, dealer in dry-goods, cloaks and millinery, 224 North Pine street, Creston, Iowa, keeps a large and well-selected stock of goods, his aim being at all times to please the public and their varied tastes. He carries a stock valued at $15,000, his annual sales averaging $30,000. He keeps four employes, who are always ready to wait on customers, and his genial, accommodating manners and reasonable prices make his place a popular one with all who are in need of anything in his line. Mr. Reimer is a native of New York, a son of F. W. and Maria Reimer. His father was a prominent New York importer for thirty-six years, a member of the firm of Reimer & Mecke. He was reared in his native city, coming to Iowa in 1880, when he located in Creston. He was married in 1885 to Hermia E. Spencer, a native of Ohio, born in 1861. In politics Mr. Reimer is independent, voting for men, not party.

J. HORRELL, justice of the peace and editor of the workingmen's paper, at Creston, has his office in Patt's Block, on Adams street. He has been a resident of Iowa since 1870, save one year, which he spent in Montana in search of health; he has resided in Creston since the autumn of 1881, and served as justice of the peace since January, 1885. He was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, in 1850; came to Chariton, Lucas County, Iowa, in 1870, where he was engaged about three years in clerking, etc.; afterward he taught school for about fourteen years in Wapello, Clarke and Lucas counties. He is an ardent worker in the interests of the Knights of Labor, especially as editor of the workingmen's paper at Creston, and as a member of the State Executive Board of that society. The title of "D. S. O." was conferred upon him February 5, 1886. Mr. Horrell was married in 1873, at Russell, Lucas County, to Miss Jennie Strong, daughter of T. L. Strong, one of the pioneers of that county. She was born in the same county in 1854. Mr. and Mrs. Horrell have two children—Maggie, who was born in Jefferson County, Iowa, in 1876, and Henry, who was born in Wapello County, in 1880.

JOHN SLONCE, deceased, formerly a resident of Pleasant Township, was born in Germany in 1819. His wife, Sophia Ort, was born also in Germany in 1826. Mr. Slonce was a farmer by occupation. For the first three years after coming to America he resided in New York; he was next a resident of Burlington, Iowa, five years, and finally, in 1861, he moved to Union County, where he passed the remainder of his days. He was a man of good judgment, quick discernment, and by industry and economy he met with good success, and died in possession of considerable property. He was a prominent member of the Evangelical church. He had seven children—Annie, deceased; John, still at home; Carrie, Sophronie, Nancy, Sarah and Mary. Annie, the first named, was the wife of E. C. Lyons, and left two children—Bertha and Nellie. Carrie married A. H. Balinger, and had one child—Iona. Sarah married Peter Magers, and has three children—Perlene, Druzilla and Sophia. Mary, the

youngest child, is the wife of Milton Magers, and has one child—Maud. Mrs. Slonce is also a consistent member of the Evangelical church. She resides upon the old farm which she manages herself, assisted by her son John. Mrs. Slonce had at the death of her husband eighty-two acres of land with the house on it left her. She has now in her own name 226½ acres of land, all in Pleasant Township, Union County, Iowa, on sections 23, 10, 11 and 15. She also owns a house and lot in the town of Afton.

GEORGE W. SMITH, farmer and stock-raiser, section 33, Jones Township, was born in Licking County, Ohio, January 29, 1832. His father, George Stockham Smith, was born December 13, 1797, and was a son of Jesse Smith, who was born in 1772. His mother's maiden name was Susan Fry. He was the seventh of nine children, the others being as follows—John F., born December 26, 1822; Elizabeth, born in 1824; Sarah, born in 1826; Katie and Bechie, twins, born in 1827; Marie, born in 1830; Mary A., born in 1834, and William, born June 13, 1837. In 1837 the father sold out in Ohio, and moved to Illinois, then a new country. There were no schools in Illinois at that time, and our subject had no educational advantages until after the death of his father, which occurred in 1847. When he was sixteen years old he went to Vermillion County, Indiana, where he remained until 1853, working on a farm in the summer, and attending school in the winter. He then spent one year with his mother in Illinois, and in 1854 started with his uncle, John S. Smith, for Oregon, but for some reason he located in Union County, Iowa, and here Mr. Smith met and became acquainted with Fatima Reed. In 1855, at the first term of court ever held in Union County, which convened at Petersville, a little town, started on account of a saw and grist mill located there, and which was presided over by Judge Bradford, he procured a license, and April 10 they were married by Rev. Swim, of Ottumwa. They started out together to face the hardships of a new country, but their hearts were light and free, and they were prosperous. June 21, 1856, their son, John William, was born. In the spring of 1858 that dreaded disease, typhoid fever, attacked the wife and mother, and May 4 she died. In the spring of 1859 Mr. Smith left his son with his wife's mother, and started for the land of gold. After living a miner's life three years he returned to Union County that he might be with his son. In 1864 he married Margaret Burkheimer, who is a native of Pennsylvania. They have three children—Laura, Clara M. Anna. Mr. Smith is a self-made man, and has by his own industry and good management become the owner of valuable property. His farm contains 220 acres of land in fine condition, stocked with Holstein cattle. Being one of the first settlers in the county he has seen the gradual progress of the transformation of the wilderness to a state of high cultivation. Mr. Smith has held nearly all the school and township offices with satisfaction to the community. He is a member of the Odd Fellows order. Politically he is a Greenbacker. His son, John W., is shorthand reporter for the Ohio River Pool Company at Chicago, Illinois.

M. McKEE, farmer and teacher, resides on section 23, Spaulding Township, where he owns eighty acres of land under good cultivation. He was born in Adams County, Ohio, in 1852. His father, John McKee, was born in Brown County, Ohio, of Scotch-Irish parents, in 1807, and his mother, Nancy (Demint) McKee, was born in Adams County, Ohio, of French-Irish parents, in 1820. After attaining the age of sixteen on his native farm, he

moved to Livingston County, Illinois, where he followed farming four years, attending school during the winters. Altogether he has taught twelve terms, obtaining a good reputation as a teacher. Financially Mr. McKee is a self-made man, as he landed in Iowa in 1876 with less than $25, and at the time of buying his present home was able to make but 46 cents of a cash payment. He was married in Union County, in 1880, to Miss Ella Mumford, who was also a teacher, having taught ten terms. She was born in Anderson County, Kansas, August 31, 1860, being the only daughter of James J. and Emmeline (Graham) Mumford. Mr. and Mrs. McKee have one child—Roscoe.

JAMES MOONEY, farmer and stock-raiser, New Hope Township, residing on section 16, is a native of Ireland, born in Kings County, February 6, 1844, a son of Thomas Mooney, who is also an Irishman by birth. The family came to the United States in 1853, and settled in La Salle County, Illinois. In 1859 they removed to Hillsdale, Michigan, and in the fall of 1870 came to Union County, the father being now a resident of Afton. James Mooney was about nine years of age when he was brought by his parents to La Salle County, Illinois, and there he spent his youth on the home farm. He enlisted in the war of the Rebellion in Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry to serve three years. He took part with his regiment in the battles of Hartsville, Tennessee, Stone River, Chickamauga, Atlanta and others of minor importance. He was wounded in the left hip near Atlanta August 7, 1863, and now draws a pension. Mr. Mooney came to Union County the same time as his father, and has since made his home in New Hope Township, where he has a good farm of 160 acres. Mr. Mooney was married December 12, 1872, to Miss Clarissa Cosner, daughter of Henry Cosner, of Pleasant Township, Union County. Mr. Mooney is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He never seeks official positions, preferring to devote his entire attention to his farm, and by his industrious habits and genial disposition he has gained the respect of the entire community in which he resides.

DAVID MUNCH, a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser, and a prominent citizen of Platte Township, was born in the State of Ohio, February 18, 1838, his parents, David and Bethnan (Coffman) Munch, being natives of the same State. He was reared to mercantile pursuits, and at the age of twenty-three years he obtained a position in Baltimore, Maryland, as clerk in a wholesale boot and shoe store. February 22, 1863, he enlisted in the war of the Rebellion, in Company G, Fifty-fourth Ohio Infantry, and was detailed as chief clerk in the Quartermaster's department, which position he filled until receiving his discharge, August 24, 1865. By the explosion of gunpowder March 5, 1865, his eyesight was ruined, having almost entirely lost the sight of both eyes. He has since received a liberal pension from the Government. After the war he returned to his home in Ohio, remaining there till the spring of 1876. He was married to Miss Margaret Tailor, a daughter of Peter and Hannah (Brothers) Tailor, natives of Ohio. Mrs. Munch was born May 10, 1841. They are the parents of seven children—Lucy M., born March 2, 1865; Anna B. and Cora E. (twins), born August 12, 1868; Lizzie H., born July 11, 1870; Tailor and Florence (twins), born February 22, 1872, and Isaac B., born March 23, 1874. Mr. Munch came to Union County, Iowa, in 1876, settling on his present farm on section 29, Platte Township, March 9, of that year, and by industry and perseverance he has accumulated a fine

property, owning at present 240 acres, and by his honorable and upright dealings has won the respect of all who know him. He has a good residence on his farm, and commodious farm buildings, and a good orchard, the entire surroundings of the place showing the owner to be a thorough, practical farmer.

HERMAN SCHWANZ, one of the enterprising young farmers, and a public-spirited citizen of New Hope Township, where he lives on section 26, is a native of Union County, Iowa, born in Afton, the date of his birth being March 9, 1859. His parents, Lewis and Hannah (Suer) Schwanz, are both deceased, the father having been killed in battle while fighting for the Union during the late war. Both parents were natives of Germany. Herman Schwanz, our subject, was brought up by his uncle, Fred Schwanz, of Union Township, this county, being reared to agricultural pursuits, which he has always followed, and by his persevering industry and strict economy he is meeting with good success, having a good farm of 160 acres, where he makes his home. Mr. Schwanz was united in marriage April 10, 1884, to Miss Cora B. White, a daughter of Isaac White, a resident of Afton, this county. Both Mr. Schwanz and his wife are members of the Evangelical church, and are among the most respected citizens of New Hope Township.

C. ECKERSON, of the firm of Eckerson & Stewart, proprietors of the boot and shoe store, Pine Street, Creston, was born in 1839 in the State of New York, a son of John and Hannah Eckerson, natives of the same State, and of German ancestry. He received a good common school education in his native State, which, strengthened by his growing natural abilities and ripened by experience, has enabled him to become a business man second to none in Creston and vicinity. He is upright in all his dealings, judicious and energetic. The present business place he started in 1881, in partnership with M. Zimmerman, who retired July 18, 1884, and, Mr. C. E. Stewart buying his interest, the firm name became what it is at present. They have $11,000 worth of stock, their sales amounting to $18,000 annually. Mr. Eckerson also owns a handsome residence and several lots. Politically he is a Democrat, and socially a member of the Masonic order; is a good citizen, husband, father and friend. He was married in New York to Louisa A. Eastime, who was born in Rochester, that State, in 1848. They have one child—Myrta, who was born in Erie County, New York. Mr. Eckerson was a prominent school-teacher in his native county.

JOSIAH ARMSTRONG, of Creston, engaged in the livery business on the corner of Adams street and New York avenue in the winter of 1872–'3, and built his present barn on Maple street, in company with A. N. Bradfield, and moved it to its present location in 1883. He is the oldest liveryman in the place, having been in the business here continuously since 1872, and he had been engaged in the same occupation prior to that time, from 1862, in Marion County, Iowa. He keeps a complete outfit in all the departments of his line. Mr. Armstrong was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, in the year 1824, his father, John Armstrong, having settled in Ohio in 1800, while it was yet a Territory. The latter was born on the ocean, while his parents were on the way to this country from Ireland. He was married to Jane McCamon, and resided in Ohio during the remainder of his days. The subject of this sketch lived in Ohio until 1855, when he came West, and settled at what is now Monroe,

in Jasper County, Iowa. There he kept a hotel for a number of years, and then went to Pella, where he opened a livery stable, since which time he has been a liveryman, as already mentioned. He was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca J. Scott, a native of Ohio. They are the parents of three sons —Craig and Scott (twins), and Horatio S. The first mentioned is a machinist in the round house at Creston; Scott is a clerk in the master mechanic's office, and the youngest is a conductor on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. George B. McClellan, a twin of the youngest, died at the age of seven years.

EDWARD STALKER, residing on section 15, Douglas Township, is an agriculturist and live-stock raiser, having under improvements 240 acres of land, forty acres on the creek. He was born on the Isle of Man, in 1825, the son of Thomas and Catherine (Lord) Stalker, of Scotch and French ancestry. (The people of that island are called "Manks.") Our subject grew up to years of manhood on his native island, where he worked as a farm hand. When twenty-five years of age he immigrated to America, and for fifteen years was a resident of Monroe County, New York, where he helped build a tannery, working as a common laborer for 75 cents a day. He then served at the trade five years, and then for ten years had charge of the yard, and received $50 a month. He then moved to Knox County, Illinois, where he lived nine years, farming, and finally, in 1875, he came to Union County, and purchased a quarter section of land in a wild state; afterward he bought eighty acres more, then forty more, and pushed forward the all-engaging work of improvement. His house he built in 1874, at a cost of $1,100, and his barn at an expense of $2,500. He has forty to fifty head of cattle, besides hogs and horses. All he has he has earned by his own efforts. In early life he learned the tanner's trade, but he commenced life in America a poor man, having but 75 cents when he stopped in Rochester, New York, in 1851, and then working for 75 cents a day. In this country he has acted in the capacity of school director three years; in his politics he is a Republican. He was married on the Isle of Man, in 1849, to Miss Jane Kneale, daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Quale) Kneale, natives also of the Isle of Man; she was born February 26, 1825. Of the twelve children of Mr. and Mrs. Stalker, eight are living—Henry R., on the Isle of Man; Katherine, wife of Thomas Wolkington; Edward, Ann Jane, Elizbeth E., Thomas, Isaac J. and Frances Elida. James, John and two infants are deceased; Thomas and Isaac are with their parents.

J. H. DWIGHT, dental surgeon, came to Creston in May, 1885, and is located in Merchants' Block, North Maple Street; has been engaged in this business since 1876. He was born near Rockford, Illinois, in 1855. He began the study of his profession at the age of nineteen years, at Danville, Illinois, and commenced his practice at Bushnell. Later he practiced five years in Tama City, Iowa, and in the spring of 1883 went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and opened an office at Lake Minnetonka, a noted summer resort near that city. This location brought him in contact with people who demanded the highest grade of work known to the profession. In order to attain greater proficiency, he entered the Minnesota College Hospital, where he graduated as Doctor of Dental Surgery, in March, 1885. At the college he learned the system of "Golden Crown and Bridge Work," which is a comparatively new system, and is the highest point yet attained for inserting artificial teeth. Dr. Dwight makes it a rule to keep well informed of all advanced methods in his profession, and his office is well

furnished with all modern instruments pertaining to his business, including a Bonwell electro-magnetic mallet, etc. He has a fine practice, which is constantly increasing. Mrs. Dwight was formerly Miss Carrie Bonner. They have one child—Clyde.

A. R. PETERSON, engaged in stock-raising and in farming on section 31, Spaulding Township, was born in Crawford County, Pennsylvania, in 1843, his parents, Amos and Lydia (Ridle) Peterson, being of Scotch-Irish and German descent. His mother is still living in Henry County, Illinois. Having been brought up on the farm, he has all his life been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He came West in 1875, locating in this county; he now has 120 acres of good land, in an excellent state of cultivation, with residence, barn, etc. Having obtained a good common-school education, he has been a useful citizen, a good neighbor and an excellent officer in his township. He has been elected to the office of township treasurer five terms, and that of township clerk two terms. His political views coincide with those of the Republican party. He was married in Fulton County, Illinois, in 1864, to Miss Arabella, daughter of John and Rachel (Smith) Hobbs, natives of Pennsylvania and of Welsh ancestry. She was born in Steubenville, Ohio, in 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have two children—Ross W. and A. R. Postoffice, Creston.

E. C. FERGUSON, dealer in fruit trees, making his headquarters at the office of E. C. Lucas, Creston, has been a partner of the latter, and now has a business requiring the services of from ten to fifteen men. He was born in Springfield, Pennsylvania, in 1856, his parents P. C. and Melissa (Mershon) Ferguson, being natives of Pennsylvania, and of Scotch descent. He was reared on a farm, and at the age of thirty years left his native State, and came to Creston, Iowa. He learned the fruit business about seventeen years ago at Rochester, New York, and he has sold trees in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska. He had nothing to start with, and after working on salary for two years he commenced business for himself, and he has prospered till his business has the above extent. He owns a section of land in Hamilton County, Kansas, and property in Springfield, Pennsylvania, besides one of the best residences in Creston, and the implement house, blacksmith shop and feed store occupied by E. C. Lucas. He is a member of Evergreen Lodge, No. 222, A. F. & A. M., at Conneaut, Ohio, is a Republican, and in religion liberal. He was married in 1881 in Girard, Pennsylvania, to Miss Grace Greenwood, who was born in that city, in 1855.

JOSHUA F. BISHOP, of Afton, was born in Washington County, New York, October 15, 1831. His paternal grandfather, a Scotchman, came to America before the Revolution and settled in Washington County, New York, with many others of his nationality. He was a commissioned officer in the patriot army, and witnessed the surrender of Burgoyne. The parents of the subject of this sketch were Archibald and Sarah (Fisher, formerly spelled Visher) Bishop. They followed farming. In 1835 they removed to Morrow (then Richland) County, Ohio, where they lived twenty years. Here Joshua F. received his education. He visited Iowa in 1853, and in 1855 the whole family removed to Union County. Archibald Bishop died of heart disease on a small farm in Jones Township in 1861. His wife is now living with a

J. T. Bishop

daughter in Lucas County, at the advanced age of ninety years. They were the parents of seven children, four of whom are living. Of these Joshua is next to the youngest. He entered the land on which Thayer now stands —120 acres—in 1855, and being a natural trader, he at different times increased his holding until he found himself the owner of 400 acres of land at the opening of the war. He enlisted in July, 1861, in Company H. Fourth Iowa, in which he served as Commissary-Sergeant for one year. He was then made Second Lieutenant, and afterward acted as Adjutant of the regiment. In 1864 he was made Captain of his company. July 22, 1864, when acting as Adjutant, he was wounded at Atlanta. He was in hospital at Marietta for three weeks and then returned home on sick leave. When he went to the field again, he reached Chattanooga two or three days too late to go with Sherman on his famous march to the sea. He was detailed to Charleston, East Tennessee, where he passed the winter, first as Provost-Marshal and then as Commissary of supplies. In April, 1865, he was ordered to rejoin his regiment, but the latter was moving so rapidly he did not overtake it until it reached Petersburg, Virginia, on its way to participate in the grand review at Washington, May 24, 1865. Captain Bishop was mustered out with his regiment at Davenport, Iowa, in August, 1865. Without his knowledge or consent, his friends in Union County secured his nomination for county judge and recorder. He served three years in that capacity, and then, the office of auditor having been created, he was *ex officio* auditor during 1869. Soon after he embarked in journalism, to which he has since devoted more or less of his time, and is now editor and proprietor of the *Tribune-News*, though real estate dealing has been his favorite and chief occupation. He is a public-spirited, active man, and devoted to the interest of Afton, of which he is now one of the oldest and most popular residents. Judge Bishop was married November 18, 1856, in Clarke County, to Miss Susan Lindsley, who became the mother of seven children, one dying in infancy. She died July 14, 1876. He was again married September 18, 1877, to Mrs. Lottie (Cherry) Stevenson. By this marriage he has one son. All the children are residents of Union County except the eldest, who is the pioneer newspaper man of Meade County, Kansas. Judge Bishop is a Republican, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a Free Mason.

RICHARDS, physician and surgeon, Creston, was born in Preble County, Ohio, in April, 1844. His parents, William and Rachel (Williams) Richards, were natives respectively of Kentucky and Tennessee, of Scotch-Irish descent, both now deceased. Until he was nineteen years of age young Richards was employed in agricultural pursuits; then clerked in a drug store two years, and then began the study of medicine under Dr. W. E. Brown, of Missouri, which he continued for two years, and then practiced his profession until 1869, in Maryville, Missouri. Next he attended lectures at the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, graduating in 1871; entered again upon the practice of medicine in Buchanan County, Iowa, one year, then ten years in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he enjoyed a successful business. He located in Creston in 1883, where he has established a large and lucrative practice. He has a well-selected library, and practices according to what is known as the "Electrical System," which consists in applying electricity by large batteries and machines made for the express purpose, to all parts of the body. He can also apply the wonderful agent to any part of the system by means of the electric bath, his apparatus costing over $1,000. His wife administers the treat

ment to ladies. The doctor was married in Whitley County, Indiana, in 1864, to Miss Margaret, daughter of Edward and Mary Beckley, of Irish and German ancestry. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1843. The two children in the family now are—Ida J. and Warren E. The doctor is a member of the Odd Fellows and Masonic orders, and in politics a Republican. Himself and wife are members of the Christian church. As an interesting relic the doctor has a horse pistol which was carried by his grandfather in the Revolutionary war.

WILLIAM H. CHILDS, a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Lincoln Township, residing on section 18, was born in Medina County, Ohio, September 13, 1846, a son of Charles and Sallie Childs, the father a native of Vermont, and of Welch descent, and the mother born in the State of New York, in 1813, of English ancestry. They immigrated to Ohio in an early day, where the father lived till his death, which occurred in 1872, at the age of seventy years. The mother still makes her home in that State. They had a family of eight children, of whom five are yet living. The father held the office of justice of the peace for a period of thirty-three years, and was a much-respected man. William H. Childs, the subject of this sketch, grew to manhood in his native county, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he has always followed. He came to Iowa in 1867, and after living in Polk County for six years he came to Union County, Iowa, and purchased his present farm of 180 acres, where he has followed farming and stock-raising. He was married August 1, 1877, to Miss Viletta Foster, who was born in Dane County, Wisconsin, in 1853, a daughter of Matthew and Abigail Foster, who lived in Wisconsin till their death. Mr. and Mrs. Childs have five children—Frederick, Abigail, William, Myra and Charles M. Mr. Childs began life a poor man, but persevering energy and habits of industry have enabled him to succeed, and he is now one of the well-to-do farmers of Lincoln Township. Since coming to this county he has held several local offices of trust, including road supervisor and school director. In his political views he is a Republican.

G. H. LOTSPEICH, one of the most prominent and successful agriculturists of Platte Township, and among the self-made men of Union County, is a native of Tennessee, born October 3, 1842, a son of William and Rebecca Lotspeich, who were born in the same State. In 1854 they removed with their family to Wapello County, Iowa, they being among the pioneers of that county. G. H. Lotspeich, our subject, was reared a farmer, which avocation he has followed through life. At the age of nineteen years he enlisted in the late war, in Company D, Seventeenth Iowa Infantry, being mustered in at Keokuk, Iowa. He participated in many important engagements, including the siege of Corinth, battle of Iuka, first battle at Jackson, Champion Hill and siege of Vicksburg. October 13, 1864, his regiment surrendered to General Hood, at Tilton, Georgia, when they were taken prisoners and sent to Andersonville prison, where they remained till April 28, 1865, their rations during their imprisonment being a pint of corn meal per day. They were subsequently sent to Jackson, Florida, thence to Maryland, and from there by rail to Davenport, Iowa, where they received their discharge. After his discharge Mr. Lotspeich returned to his home, in Wapello County, and commenced working on a farm, which he continued two years. He then went to the Rocky Mountains, but nine months later returned to Wapello County, and worked on a farm a year. He then came to Union County.

where he lived two years, in the meantime improving his farm. He then went to Fremont, Nebraska, but subsequently returned to Iowa, and has since lived in Union County. He has by his industry and persevering energy succeeded in accumulating a good property, and by his upright and honorable dealing has gained the confidence and respect of the entire community. Before commencing life for himself his father gave him a small piece of land, and from this small beginning he has acquired a competency. He takes an active interest in the advancement of the cause of education, and since becoming a resident of Platte Township has filled various offices connected with the schools of the township. In politics Mr. Lotspeich affiliates with the Greenback party.

SAMUEL RIGGS, retired farmer, residing in Kent, Union County, was born in Dodd County, Kentucky, in 1806, and is a son of Daniel and Nancy Riggs. In 1817 the family settled in Missouri, remaining in that State twenty-five years. Samuel Riggs then lived in Davis County, Iowa, for thirteen years, when in 1853 he settled in what is known as Riggs' Grove, in Douglas Township, where he entered and bought 400 acres of land, and remained a resident there till 1876. He was the third settler in the western half of Union County, and experienced many of the hardships and privations of pioneer life. He was married in Howard County, Missouri, in 1825, to Rhoda Belch, by whom he had four children—James D., Eli H., Nancy and H. P. Mrs. Riggs died in 1836, and Mr. Riggs was again married the same year, in Kentucky, to Marinda Piper, who was born in Smith County, Tennessee, in 1806. To this union were born five children—Mary, S. M., Rebecca, Joseph and Daniel. Since his residence in Iowa, Mr. Riggs has represented the people of Davis County in the State Legislature for one term. He was also sheriff four years, and held the office of deputy sheriff the same length of time. He has voted the Democratic ticket the past fifty years, missing but one election. He is classed among the influential citizens of Douglas Township, where he has made his home so many years.

J. R. REESE, one of the old and honored pioneers who has assisted materially in developing the interests of Union County, is a native of Pennsylvania, born December 1, 1824, a son of Henry and Catherine (Beard) Reese, who were natives of the same State. J. R. was reared in Virginia, about fifteen miles from his birthplace. He followed agricultural pursuits till 1846, when he enlisted in the Mexican war. He was mustered into the service February 23, 1847, and participated in the battle of Buena Vista, and several others of minor importance. He was honorably discharged in 1848, when he returned to his home. The following July he engaged in the milling business, which he followed for several years. He subsequently went to Ohio, and was there married to Miss Roxanna Morman, a daughter of Thomas and Rebecca Morman, natives of Virginia, and to this union were born two children—Rebecca Catherine, born in 1855, and David H., born in 1875. Mr. Reese settled in Union County in 1857, buying his land second hand, on which he erected a rude log house, and many were the hardships and privations he endured in his pioneer home; but by industry and perseverance he has become one of the successful farmers of Platte Township, being the owner of his fine farm on sections 11 and 14, which contains 160 acres of well-cultivated land. He also owns fourteen acres on section 16, making in all 174 acres. Politically Mr. Reese is a Democrat. He takes an active interest in the cause of educa-

tion, and has held various school offices. He is the present justice of the peace, filling the office to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. He was elected to serve a second term in the November election of 1886.

SEBASTIAN FOIDEL, an active and enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Sand Creek Township, and one of the self-made men of Union County, is a native of Ross County, Ohio, born January 21, 1855. He received reasonably good educational advantages, receiving his education principally at Central University at Pella, Iowa. He was reared a farmer, which he has followed through life, with the exception of ten terms, when he was engaged in teaching school. October 3, 1882, he was married to Miss I. A. Clark, a daughter of L. B. and Harriet Clark, who were natives of Virginia, and among the pioneers of Union County, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Foidel have been born two children—Alta L., born June 18, 1884, and Howard C., born April 11, 1886. Mr. Foidel has a fine farm on section 34, Sand Creek Township, where he makes his home, which contains 100 acres of good land, and his success in life has been due to his own industry and persevering energy, which have also gained for him the respect and confidence of the entire community. In his political views Mr. Foidel is a Greenbacker. His parents were natives of Germany, coming to America in 1851. They were among the pioneers of Ringgold County, coming in an early day and settling on the farm where the father lived till his death. The prairie grass surrounding his dwelling, which then grew thick and tall, was set on fire eight miles to the northwest on one of the most windy days in the fall of 1868. When he saw the fire approaching he went to burning a strip along the road, which was known as backfiring, but his work was of no avail; the fire was approaching with the speed of a race-horse, and seeing that he could not head it off, he ran to the stable to release the horses, but before he could accomplish anything the fire broke through the roof, which frightened the horses and they became uncontrollable. It being unsafe to remain longer in the stable he left it, and in doing so he ran through about two rods of solid flames of fire. Hay and straw stacks were being torn to pieces and blown in every direction all ablaze and through this he ran. His clothes caught fire and burned him so that he lived only twenty-two hours thereafter. He was a man respected by all who knew him, and his death caused universal regret throughout the neighborhood where he resided. Thus was Mr. Foidel left at the age of thirteen, the eldest of a family of four children, and in very destitute circumstances, but with willing hearts and hands the family toiled together and with the assistance of kind neighbors managed to live comfortably well, and all received a fair education. The widow and mother still survives and is making her home with her children.

JAMES HENDRICK, engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 23, New Hope Township, was born in Marshall County, Illinois, the date of his birth being March 14, 1844. His father, William Hendrick, who is now deceased, was a native of Kentucky, born near the Mammoth Cave, and was among the pioneers of Marshall County, Illinois. He was a soldier in the Black Hawk war. James Hendrick came to Iowa with his parents in the fall of 1855, they locating in Clarke County, and there he grew to manhood, and received his education in the common schools. He served over two years in the war of the Rebellion, being a member of Company D, Eighth Iowa Cavalry, and participated in a number of battles including Nashville, Franklin, Dallas, Marietta, and was in all the engagements with Sherman

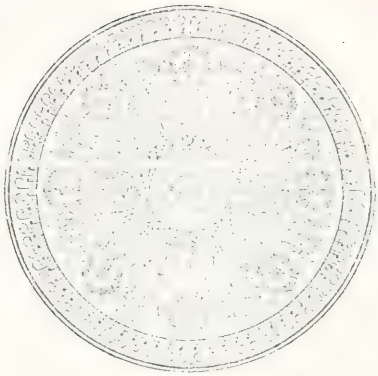
from Chattanooga to Atlanta. He came to Union County, Iowa, in the fall of 1865, and in 1868 settled on the farm where he has since followed farming and stock-raising. He was married February 25, 1862, to Mary M. Smith, a daughter of George S. Smith, who came to Union County in 1851, and is now a resident of New Hope Township. Mr. and Mrs. Hendrick have seven children—Burris A., William C. and George C. (twins), Elmer D., Ross B., Frank R. and Felix W. Mr. Hendrick has been successful as an agriculturist, and by his industry and good management has acquired a fine property, his home farm containing 173 acres. Mr. Hendrick has served his township as assessor for seven years. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He also belongs to the Anti-Horse-Thief Association. He is a member of the Christian church.

T. F. HAMILTON, stock-dealer and proprietor of meat market at Creston, Iowa, succeeded Henry Burns in November, 1882. He was at first associated with W. I. Stephen, but in the fall of 1883 purchased his partner's interest in the business and also his town property. He does a large business, which is constantly increasing. In 1886 he again formed a partnership with W. I. Stephen and opened a wholesale slaughtering and packing house at Omaha, Nebraska. This new enterprise promises to be successful and cannot fail to be so under the direction of Mr. Hamilton, who has gained the reputation of being one of the best business men of Southern Iowa. Mr. Hamilton was born in Durham County, Canada, February 28, 1847, and when nineteen years of age came west as far as Chicago, Illinois, where for a year and a half he drove a stone-truck. He then worked on a farm in Kendall County two years and a half and then rented a farm three years and a half. For ten years he was engaged in the meat business in Morris, Grundy County, and while there furnished meat to the penitentiary at Joliet, several years, by contract. Mr. Hamilton commenced life a poor boy, but has been universally successful in all his operations, and now, in addition to his capital in his business, owns much valuable real-estate, including a beautiful home on the corner of Spruce and Adams streets, Creston. He was married in Morris, Illinois, in 1873, to Anna V. Mason, a native of Montreal, Canada. They have one daughter—Blanche.

JOHN HALL, is president of the Creston Ice Company, which was organized in 1883. He, with H. M. Spencer and T. J. Potter were the pioneers of the ice business in this city, having commenced when the reservoir was completed, in 1874. The organization was formed with a capital of $25,000. Mr. Hall was elected president; James G. Ball, vice-president; and H. M. Spencer, treasurer. Mr. Hall is the only president the company has ever had. At present O. E. Phelps is vice-president and J. H. Duggan, secretary. Mr. Hall was born in Stark County, Illinois, in 1845. He came to Iowa in 1867, and lived in Des Moines two years before coming to Union County. In 1869 he bought a farm of 472 acres in Douglas Township in company with H. M. Spencer. Mr. Hall located on his farm in 1870. No improvements had been made when they purchased the property. Mr. Hall remained until 1874, and Mr. Spencer continued to reside there until the farm was sold, in 1881. The father of Mr. Hall, William Hall, settled in Stark County in 1836, and resided there until his decease. He was a native of England. The mother still lives at the old homestead. Mr. Hall was married to Ella Hammers, a native of Pennsylvania. She removed with her parents to Bellevue, Iowa, when a child. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have three children—Dolly, Lillian and Clifton C.

PHILLIP A. DERR, merchant, Creston, was born in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, in 1853. His parents, Phillip and Christina (Huntsinger) Derr, were natives of France, and immigrated to America about forty years ago, settling in the Keystone State; at present they reside in Colorado. Our subject is the fourth in order of birth of their six children, and the third son; they are all living, his two brothers being both in business at Creston. In 1865 their parents settled in Cedar County, Iowa, where the subject of this notice grew to manhood. At the age of eighteen years he entered a dry-goods store as clerk for Wyman & Muller, in Marion, Linn County, Iowa. After two years' service for them he came to Creston, in 1873, and was clerk in the dry-goods store of George W. Cartlich for seven years; then, buying an assortment of stock from Mr. Cartlich, he opened a store, which he is at present conducting, in partnership with his brothers, George and Edward. June 1, 1886, he bought out his brothers, and he is now managing the business alone with success and satisfaction, carrying a well-selected stock of dry-goods and notions, and keeping five clerks in constant employ. Having no means with which to make his start in life, his present status is a high testimonial to his business abilities. His stock is estimated at about $15,000, while his sales annually amount to about $60,000. He also has the agency for the Bonaparte Woolen Mills. In his political sentiments Mr. Derr sympathizes with the Democratic party. He is a member of the orders of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias. He was married in Creston, in 1877, to Miss Florence E., daughter of H. W. and Jane (Blair) Carney, natives of Canada; she was born in 1856, in London, that dominion. Her grandfather recently died; he had been city collector for that municipality for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Derr have three children—Edith F., Ralph and Eva M.

GENERAL HISTORY



INTRODUCTORY.

WITHIN one brief generation a wild waste of unbroken prairie has been transformed into a cultivated region of thrift and prosperity, by the untiring zeal and energy of an enterprising people. The trails of hunters and trappers have given place to railroads and thoroughfares for vehicles of every description; the cabins and garden patches of the pioneers have been succeeded by comfortable houses and broad fields of waving grain, with school-houses, churches, mills, postoffices and other institutions of convenience for each community. Add to these the prosperous cities of Creston, and several thriving villages, with extensive business and manufacturing interests, and the result is a work of which all concerned may well be proud.

The record of this marvelous change is history, and the most important that can be written. For more than thirty years the people of Union County have been making a history that for thrilling interest, grand, practical results, and lessons that may be perused with profit by citizens of other regions, will compare favorably with the narrative of the history of any county in the Northwest and, considering the extent of territory involved, it is as worthy of the pen of a Bancroft as even the story of our glorious Republic. While our venerable ancestors may have said and believed

> "No pent up Utica contracts our powers,
> For the whole boundless continent is ours,"

they were nevertheless for a long time content to occupy and possess a very small corner of it; and the great West was not opened to industry and civilization until a variety of causes had combined to form, as it were, a great heart, whose animating principle was improvement, whose impulses annually sent westward armies of noble men and women, and whose pulse is now felt throughout the length and breadth of the best country the sun ever shone upon—from the pineries of Maine to the vineyards of California, and from the sugar-canes of Louisiana to the wheat fields of Minnesota. Long may this heart beat and push forward its arteries and veins of commerce.

Not more from choice than from enforced necessity did the old pioneers bid farewell to the play-ground of their childhood and the graves of their fathers. One generation after another had worn themselves out in the service of their avaricious landlords. From the first flashes of daylight in the morning till the last glimmer of the setting sun, they had toiled unceasingly on, from father to son,

carrying home each day on their aching shoulders the precious proceeds of their daily labor. Money and pride and power were handed down in the line of succession from the rich father to his son, while unceasing work and continuous poverty and everlasting obscurity were the heritage of the workingman and his children.

Their society was graded and degraded. It was not manners, nor industry, nor education, nor qualities of the head and heart that established the grade. It was money and jewels, and silk and satin, and broadcloth and imperious pride that triumphed over honest poverty and trampled the poor man and his children under the iron heel. The children of the rich and poor were not permitted to mingle with and to love each other. Courtship was more the work of the parents than of the sons and daughters. The golden calf was the key to matrimony. To perpetuate a self-constituted aristocracy, without power of brain, or the rich blood of royalty, purse was united to purse, and cousin with cousin, in bonds of matrimony, until the virus boiling in their blood was transmitted by the law of inheritance from one generation to another, and until nerves powerless and manhood dwarfed were on exhibition everywhere, and everywhere abhorred. For the sons and daughters of the poor man to remain there was to forever follow as our fathers had followed, and never to lead; to submit, but never to rule; to obey, but never to command.

Without money, or prestige, or influential friends, the old pioneers drifted along one by one, from State to State, until in Iowa—the garden of the Union—they have found inviting homes for each, and room for all. To secure and adorn these homes more than ordinary ambition was required, greater than ordinary endurance demanded, and unflinching determination was, by the force of necessity, written over every brow. It was not pomp, or parade, or glittering show that the pioneers were after. They sought for homes which they could call their own, homes for themselves and homes for their children. How well they have succeeded after a struggle of many years against the adverse tides let the records and tax-gatherers testify: let the broad cultivated fields and fruit-bearing orchards, the flocks and the herds, the palatial residences, the places of business, the spacious halls, the clattering car-wheels and ponderous engines all testify.

There was a time when pioneers waded through deep snows, across bridgeless rivers, and through bottomless sloughs, a score of miles to mill or market, and when more time was required to reach and return from market than is now required to cross the continent, or traverse the Atlantic. These were the times when our palaces were constructed of logs and covered with "shakes" riven from the forest trees. These were the times when our children were stowed away for the night in the low, dark attics, among the horns of the elk and the deer, and where through the clinks in the "shakes" they could count the twinkling stars. These were the times when our chairs and our bedsteads were hewn from the forest trees, and tables and bureaus constructed from the boxes in which their goods were brought. These were the times when the workingman labored six and sometimes seven days in the week, and all the hours therewere in a day from sunrise to sunset.

Whether all succeeded in what they undertook is not a question to be asked now. The proof that as a body they did succeed is all around us. Many individuals were perhaps disappointed. Fortunes and misfortunes belong to the human race. Not every man can have a school-house on the corner of his farm; not every man can have a bridge over a stream that flows by his dwelling; not every man can have a railroad depot on the borders of his plantation, or a city in its center; and while these things are desirable in some respects, their advantages are oftentimes outweighed by the almost perpet

nal presence of the foreign beggar, the dreaded tramp, the fear of fire and conflagration, and the insecurity from the presence of the midnight burglar, and the bold, bad men and women who lurk in ambush and infest the villages. The good things of this earth are not all to be found in any one place; but if more is to be found in one than another, that place is in our rural retreats, our quiet homes outside of the clamor and turmoil of city life.

In viewing the blessings which surround us, then, we should reverence those who have made them possible, and ever fondly cherish in memory the sturdy old pioneer and his log-cabin.

Let us turn our eyes and thoughts back to the log-cabin days of a quarter of a century ago, and contrast those homes with comfortable dwellings of to-day. Before us stands the old log-cabin. Let us enter. Instinctively the head is uncovered in token of reverence to this relic of ancestral beginnings, early struggles and final triumphs. To the left is the deep, wide fire-place, in whose commodious space a group of children may sit by the fire, and up through the chimney may count the stars, while ghostly stories of witches and giants, and still more thrilling stories of Indians and wild beasts, are whisperingly told and shudderingly heard. On the great crane hangs the old tea-kettle and the great iron pot. The huge shovel and tongs stand sentinel in either corner, while the great andirons patiently wait for the huge back-log. Over the fire-place hangs the trusty rifle. To thy right of the fire-place stands the spinning wheel, while in the farther end of the room is seen the old-fashioned loom. Strings of drying apples and poles of drying pumpkins are overhead. Opposite the door in which you enter stands a huge deal table; by its side the dresser whose pewter plates and "shining delf" catch and reflect the fire-place flames as shields of armies do the sunshine. From the corner of its shelves coyly peep out the relics of former china. In a curtained corner and hid from casual sight we find the mother's bed, and under it the trundle-bed, while near them a ladder indicates the loft where the older children sleep. To the left of the fire-place and in the corner opposite the spinning wheel is the mother's work-stand. Upon it lies the Bible, evidently much used, its family record telling of parents and friends a long way off, and telling, too, of children

> "Scattered like roses in bloom,
> Some at the bridal, some at the tomb."

Her spectacles, as if but just used, are inserted between the leaves of her Bible, and tell of her purpose to return to its comforts when cares permit and duty is done. A stool, a bench, well notched and whittled and carved, and a few chairs, complete the furniture of the room, and all stand on a coarse but well-scoured floor.

Let us for a moment watch the city visitors to this humble cabin. The city bride, innocent but thoughtless, and ignorant of labor and care, asks her city-bred husband, "Pray, what savages set this up?" Honestly confessing his ignorance, he replies, "I do not know." But see the pair upon whom age sits "frosty but kindly." First, as they enter, they give a rapid glance about the cabin home, and then a mutual glance of eye to eye. Why do tears start and fill their eyes? Why do lips quiver? There are many who know why; but who that has not learned in the school of experience the full meaning of all these symbols of trials and privations, of loneliness and danger, can comprehend the story that they tell to the pioneer? Within this chinked and mud-daubed cabin we read the first pages of our history, and as we retire through its low doorway, and note the heavy battened door, its wooden hinges and its welcoming latch-string, is it strange that the scenes without should seem to be but a dream? But the cabin and the palace, standing side by side in vivid contrast, tell their own story of this people's progress. They are a history and a prophecy in one.

GEOGRAPHY AND TOPOGRAPHY.

Union County is situated 175 miles west of the Mississippi, and eighty miles east of the Missouri, on the high table-land lying between the two rivers, and in the second tier of counties north of the Missouri State line. It contains about 275,000 acres, divided into twelve Congressional townships, and, at the highest point, is 1,280 feet above the level of the sea. The climate is pleasant and healthy, and at all seasons of the year breezes fan the prairies, with never a day so sultry but that a cooling breath brings comfort to laborer or traveler. The evenings are delightful, however heated the day may have been. The weary artisan may lie down to rest at night and in the morning rise refreshed and prepared for his daily toil.

Old settlers say that consumption was never known to attack a victim here, and chronic or constitutional diseases are not frequent. Malarial diseases, while more frequently met with, are of rare occurrence as compared with localities badly drained and supplied with poor water, good water being here readily obtained by digging wells from fifteen to thirty feet deep.

The larger portion of the county is a gently undulating prairie, resembling the waves of the ocean suddenly arrested in their swell and changed into soil, there being, however, a sufficient amount of timber and bottom lands to give variety to the face of the country and to gratify the tastes or prejudices of all who may wish to locate here. Grand and Platte Rivers drain the greater part of the county, and in the immediate vicinity of each is considerable broken land, much of which is or has been covered with a fine growth of native timber, principally oak, ash, elm, hickory, maple and cottonwood.

NATIVITY OF THE POPULATION.

The present inhabitants are chiefly derived from the Eastern States—men who, catching the spirit of emigration, dissatisfied with the circumscribed limits of the old home and its surroundings, chose to struggle for a while with poverty to the end that homes of comfort and plenty might cheer their declining years. Hundreds of smiling cottages, well fenced, and cultivated farms, and other evidences of thrift and happiness, to-day bear eloquent testimony to the wisdom of their early choice.

While the great majority of the people are American born, there are many others, frugal, honest and prosperous, who have come from across the ocean and cast in their lot with the others; and the fair-haired sons of the great German Fatherland, the warm-hearted, impulsive Irishman, the men of muscle and sinew from the rugged shores of Scandinavia, the frank, ingenuous Englishman, the canny Scot, the impetuous Frenchman and the stolid Russian, all have cast their lot together and are working harmoniously for the development of Union County.

EARLY AND CIVIL HISTORY.

THE greater part of what follows in regard to the Mormons, Indians and Early Settlement is taken from the admirable work of C. J. Colby, entitled "Centennial Sketches, Map and Directory of Union County," published in 1876. Some additions and corrections have been made.

MORMONS.

Before the first permanent settlement of Union County took place, its territory was the temporary abiding place, of a large body of whites who considered themselves (with some truth) persecuted by the Christians of civilized Illinois, and were on their way to seek an undisturbed home in the far West. These were the Mormons.

In the year 1845 the troubles between the citizens of Hancock and adjoining counties and the Mormons who had settled at Nauvoo, Illinois, culminated in an aggressive warfare made with the avowed object of driving out every Saint in the district, and it soon became evident that no peace or personal safety could be hoped for by them so long as they remained in Illinois, and it was finally decided to seek a home in the wilderness of the far West, whither a band of Danites had been sent some months previously on a tour of exploration.

Accordingly, in September of that year, the vanguard crossed the Mississippi and commenced their journey toward their far-off destination—the wilds of the snow-capped Sierras; these were followed, the succeeding winter, by a still larger number, who were not permitted by their relentless persecutors to await the opening of spring, but were driven out of their comfortable homes in mid-winter to face the pitiless storms of a bleak and dreary wilderness. Crossing the Mississippi on the ice, they commenced a journey which, under the most favorable circumstances, was fraught with toil and danger; but undertaken as this was, with but slight preparation, and without adequate clothing or protection, must necessarily prove disastrous. The cold was intense wood was scarce, the howling winds, drizzling rains and drifting snows must be faced day after day—what wonder then that sickness and death should be their constant companions? The strong, hardy man; the frail, gentle woman and the prattling babe, alike became victims to the terrible exposure to which they were subjected. The only coffins obtainable were made from the bark of trees, and hundreds of graves marked the line of travel of the unfortunate emigrants. With provisions almost exhausted, roads next to impassable, and disease and death making such terrible inroads upon their numbers, it was finally decided to press forward to some suitable spot where they could camp, recuperate, and raise

a crop which would supply food not only to them, but also to the remnant of their number who were to follow.

In conformity with this decision, they crossed the Chariton River some thirty miles east of where the city of Chariton now stands, and traveled through Lucas into Decatur County, where, at Garden Grove, they left a part of their number to carry out the programme decided upon, the larger portion continuing their journey until they arrived in this county, June 17, 1846.

Their camping ground was the elevated plateau east of Grand River in Jones Township, on the spot where I. K. White's residence now stands. The view from this point was magnificent, the season delightful; nature had put on her most beautiful garments and seemed to smile a welcome to the weary, heart-sick travelers.

Looking far out toward the sunset, across the valley of Grand River with its fringe of graceful trees along its banks, to the undulating prairies beyond decked with flowers of every hue, it is not strange that they broke forth into songs of joy and gratitude that the Red Sea and the Desert were passed—their pursuers were far away—and the Promised Land almost in view. They gave their camping ground the name of Mt. Pisgah, and temporarily located there in accordance with their previous decision, making immediate arrangements to clear land and plant such crops as would mature early and supply their necessities. About 3,000, including those who were sick and feeble, formed the colony at Pisgah, the remainder of the caravan journeying westward, locating at various points between here and their last stopping place in Iowa, which they named Kanesville (now Council Bluffs).

The Pisgah colony was composed largely of illiterate persons, but there were also many who, though clad in the garb of poverty, showed by grace and manners that they had seen better days. As a rule they were disposed to be industrious, were kind to each other, and sought to alleviate the hardships and sufferings of such of their number as were in a worse condition than others, by all the means in their power.

During the summer of 1846, when it was not definitely settled whether they should move forward in the fall or not, no cabins were built, but the emigrants lived in their wagons as best they could, and the hardships they had undergone, having left the fruitful seeds of disease among them, the present lack of proper shelter, provision and food resulted in over 300 of their number being buried during the first six months of their stay at Pisgah.

Word was finally given to prepare winter quarters, which was obeyed with alacrity, and and hundreds of little cabins sprang up within a circuit of two or three miles, the settlements being made on sections 30 and 31 New Hope, and 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 30, in Jones Township, also on sections 12 and 13 in Union. They here continued to reside until the year 1852, when the last of their number left for Utah.

During their stay, so far as known, they were peaceable and quiet; whatever difficulties they had being settled by reference to the church, subject to the approval of their ruling bishop, whose judgment was final. In the early part of their sojourn, this officer, whose name was Huntingdon, departed this life, and was buried in their cemetery at Pisgah, being succeeded by one Coleman Boran, president.

Polygamy was not practiced by them while here, and dissolute characters, of which only a few were to be found in their company, were held in as much disgrace as the same persons would be in any community to-day.

They built two log churches and held regular services; there being no mills they first built small horse mills for cracking corn, but soon erected a log water-mill on Grand River, the burrs being made from common boulders; such as are occasionally found in the county.

and known as "nigger-heads." These stones were rudely dressed, but answered a good purpose in preparing food for a large number of people; they were about two and one-half feet in diameter and two feet thick. The cemetery of this settlement is situated on the northwest quarter of section 8, and numerous graves may yet be seen within the enclosure.

In the spring of 1852 the remnant of the Mormons left, and Mt. Pisgah was occupied by Gentiles; their cabins stood for many years, but one by one were torn down by the settlers and put to various uses, and nothing now remains to mark the spot where once they stood.

Much as we may condemn the Mormons in some of their acts, it is impossible not to admire the firmness and constancy with which they held their faith, choosing to suffer hunger, thirst, disease and death itself, rather than sacrifice their conscientious though mistaken opinions to any outside influence whatsoever.

INDIANS.

In common with all parts of our country, this county was once the home of the Indian; and the fertile fields and smiling meadows of to-day were his chosen hunting grounds, from time immemorial.

Here he chased the deer, buffalo and elk; here had blazed his wigwam fire; here he had wooed his dusky mate, had made his home and reared his children; and as moons waxed and waned, nature paid for him her last tribute of respect, and he passed to happier hunting grounds, in the great unknown spirit land.

It is not probable that there ever was a very large tribe of Indians located here; perhaps 500 would fully cover their number; they consisted chiefly of Pottawatomies, with a few roving bands of Sacs and Foxes, Omahas and Pawnees.

At the time the first settlers came to this country, the Pottawatomies, under the leadership of their chief, John Green, roamed from grove to grove, and from stream to stream, hunting and fishing, as was customary among them. Their principal camping ground was on Twelve-Mile Creek, where they could often be seen sitting by their wigwam fires, or enjoying the sports and recreations which they sometimes engaged in. Near here was also their burying place, and the mounds which mark the last resting place of some of the tribe may still be seen, bearing silent testimony to the fact that another race of people, once inhabiting this county, have passed away. Another favorite camping place was a small grove of timber in Douglas Township, about one mile west of the present site of Creston, on section 3. The timber lands along Platte and Grand rivers and Twelve-Mile Creek, were all frequented by them in the pursuit of game; failing to secure which they had recourse to begging, at which they were very successful, the squaws particularly by their importunities obtaining such supplies as were needed by themselves and their indolent lords, and by these means they managed to eke out a plentiful though precarious living. There seems to have been the utmost good feeling between the settlers and their dusky neighbors—some of whom, in exceptional cases, worked for settlers on their farms, dressed in the garb of civilization, and were orderly and well-behaved in their deportment. They laid no claims to the lands here, their title having been purchased by the Government about the year 1840.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first permanent settlers in Union County were Norman Nun and Joseph B. Nun, with their families, who, emigrating from Putnam County, Indiana, came here in February, 1850, having previously spent two years in Madison County. It is supposed that the fact that one of the highways of California travel which commenced in 1849 was

through this county, decided them to settle here on the line of emigration, where an honest penny could be turned in furnishing supplies, and a fair patronage be secured by Norman Nun, who was by trade a blacksmith.

They were possessed of some means, had several yoke of oxen, two or three wagons, and a limited outfit of household goods. A numerous family of children were a part of the fortune of the elder Nun; six boys and three girls, with himself and wife, constituting a household almost patriarchal in character.

About the time of their arrival James H. Stark and family came from Mahaska County, and the three families, looking about for a location, decided to purchase claims from the Mormons at Pisgah, who at this time were leaving for the West. This being done arrangements were at once made for permanent improvements.

A blacksmith-shop being erected, a cabin of one room was put in order, and the new settlers were prepared to furnish entertainment for man or beast, and they had not long to wait before their accommodations were stretched to their utmost capacity. The immense tide of overland California travel set in early in the spring of 1850, and continued until August of that year. Corn, oats and provisions were in great demand, and supplies were often hauled many miles. So crowded were the rooms of the hostelry that it was often unable to give shelter for a night to parties traveling on horseback, or to those who were sick and unable to sleep exposed to the elements. Early and late the blacksmith's fire was burning, and he was mending the broken wagons and setting shoes on horses for the California travelers. A golden harvest fell into the settlers' laps this year; and it is said that the blacksmith Nun, at the end of the season, was compelled to make a strong box to safely keep the $2,500 in gold which he had accumulated.

May 23, 1850, witnessed the arrival of W. M. Lock and family, who, starting from Quincy, Illinois, with three teams of oxen and horses, traveled westward, until, on reaching the Pisgah settlement, he concluded to stop, and following the footsteps of others, he bought a Mormon cabin, and commenced living in the same. These cabins, perhaps, deserve a passing notice. They were about sixteen feet square, built of poles or small trees, the roof being covered with rived clapboards, while outside the whole was a covering of sods to exclude the cold. The floors were made of puncheons, and the doors of rived clapboards fastened with pins, and closed by a latch with an old-fashioned latch-string, which, among pioneers, always hangs out, inviting the stranger to enter. The roofs were low, and a tall man could not stand erect in them, yet even these homes and this kind of life had its bright spots.

In August following was born the first white child (except Mormon) in the county, to Mr. and Mrs. Lock, a son, Charles; he was a bright, intelligent boy, and grew to be a lad of promise, but died in 1861, at eleven years of age.

The new settlers this year planted such crops as they could, and were blessed with a bountiful harvest. Their nearest neighbors west were at Johnson's settlement, forty-two miles distant; north, twenty-five miles to Winterset, then a little village of two or three houses; on the east, Rising Sun was twenty-eight miles; and McDonald's, in Missouri, the nearest settlement south, was forty-five miles away. Their supplies were, at this time, hauled 200 miles, from Keokuk; their nearest postoffice was Winterset, twenty-five miles, or Rising Sun, twenty-eight miles distant.

Wheat flour was a luxury seldom enjoyed, and even ground corn was considered a delicacy; the ordinary fare being "hog and hominy"—often without the hog—with an abundance of game and a generous supply of

wild fruit. A bee tree occasionally supplied the sweets of the household, and in times of sickness, the roots and herbs of the country were the remedies relied on to effect a cure.

Occasionally, an outward-bound California emigrant, becoming sick or disgusted, would turn about and return to his former home, in which case his store of supplies was eagerly bought by the settlers, who, for a time, would revel in the luxury of flour biscuit and pure coffee sweetened with sugar.

In September of this year (1850) Benjamin Lamb and family, consisting of himself, wife eleven children and three nephews—in all sixteen persons—came into the county, and located on section 26, Pleasant Township, where he made a claim, and built the sides of a log-cabin to hold the same. Well pleased, but not altogether satisfied, as soon as the claim was secured, he traveled west with his family to Kanesville (now Council Bluffs), where he arrived December 1, 1850, and stopping for a few days to rest his teams he traveled south as far as St. Joseph, Missouri, where he remained until about February 1, 1851, when he concluded to return to his claim in Union County, which he accordingly did, and reached there February 10. A heavy snow, which fell the night following their arrival, rendered the condition of the family anything but comfortable, but a roof being at once put on the house, they moved into it, well pleased to find themselves at home.

Though their cabin was neither large nor elegant, and was finished with a clapboard roof and a puncheon floor, for years it was known far and near as a stopping place, and it was no uncommon thing for fifteen or twenty travelers to lodge with his family of sixteen persons in a single night. Crowded for room though they might be, no one was turned away, and it is related on one occasion, when an extra large number of guests were to be accommodated, that they commenced to lie down on the floor at the side of the room farthest from the door, and so continued until there was only room for the last man to find a resting place by shutting the door and occupying the space so secured. Early in the year 1851 Henry Lamb, I. P. Lamb and Alexander Poe settled in the township, and in April of the same year Samuel and William McKutcheon and families, numbering seven persons, came to Mr. Lamb's, and made their home with him during the summer. While stopping there one of the McKutcheon family was taken with the small-pox and died; some of the Lamb family also contracted the disease, but by careful treatment and good nursing recovered.

It is stated by Mrs. Lamb that for six weeks in the summer of 1851, they lived entirely on hominy and venison, and for the small children, who could not eat hominy, bread was made from meal ground in a coffee-mill; all the sweetening the family had was wild honey, of which there was a bountiful supply, and for two years the only meat in the settlement was game, principally deer and wild turkeys, which were very plentiful, four or five deer being often brought in at night by one hunter as the result of one day's sport.

With no saw-mills, stores or other accessories of civilized life at hand, the few settlers were obliged to depend almost entirely on their individual resources, as the following incident will illustrate: Late in the summer of 1850 a young man from Andrew County, Missouri, who was visiting friends at Winterset, contracted a malarial fever which brought him nearly to death's door. After a time he became convalescent, and, much against the wishes of his friends, mounted his horse and started homeward, but on arriving at Pisgah he was again taken violently ill and died there. There being no cabinet-makers or saw-mills in the settlement, what to do for a coffin was the question. Search was made among all the cabins for long roof clapboards, but none of sufficient length could be found; a second search for puncheons was then made

with no greater success, and as a last resort William Lock, J. H. Stark and some of the Mormons went into Grand River bottoms and hewed green cottonwood boards, from which they made the coffin, and gave the stranger a decent burial.

The land in Union County was first offered for sale at Fairfield, on November 9, 1850, and the first entry was made by Henry Peters, July 12, 1851, who entered a portion of section 30, township 72, range 28, which had been surveyed in 1849, by John Hooper.

In September, 1850, a petition was forwarded to the Postmaster-General, asking that a postoffice might be established at Pisgah, and in January, 1851, the request was complied with, and Mr. William Lock duly appointed postmaster, but no service was rendered until the spring following, when one A. E. Holbrook, a government sub contractor, performed the journey once a week, traveling on horseback, the route being from Chariton to Pisgah. It was often the case that not a single letter or paper was contained in the Pisgah sack, and the first year's salary of Postmaster Lock amounted to less than $7. About the same time another mail route was established from Centerville to Pisgah, which also rendered weekly service, the contractor being William Henderson.

This spring (1851) was also remarkable for an increased immigration to the California gold fields, and the almost incredible number of 2,000 teams were counted which passed by the Pisgah settlement in six weeks, all bound for the new El Dorado; large herds of young cattle and sheep were also driven through, generally, however, bankrupting their owners by reason of the expense of feeding and losing large numbers in morasses and sloughs. In the month of March, 1851, a fine-looking gentleman rode up to the door of the Pisgah Hotel, of which William Lock was landlord, and engaged feed for 450 young cattle and accommodations for eleven herders who had charge of the drove, for one night. His bill amounted to $87.50, gold, and during the next day's drive twenty-seven head of cattle were left to die, mired in one slough in Adair County.

As a net result of this westward travel, our new settlers made money, mine host Lock clearing $500, gold, in four months, the larder of his cabin proving far more remunerative than the Government office which he held by appointment of President Fillmore.

NEW HOPE TOWNSHIP.

This township is situated in the northeast corner of Union County, adjoining Clarke County on the east and Madison County on the north, and is on the great divide or watershed between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. In many parts of the township a stone can be thrown either into a stream which flows into the Mississippi, or into one of the tributaries of the "Big Muddy." In the Government survey it is number 73, range 28, and contains 22,896 acres of land.

It is watered by Grand River, which runs through the southwestern part of the township, and with its tributaries furnishes a never-failing supply of water for stock and mechanical purposes. In the vicinity of Grand River and Wolf Creek are numerous fine groves of natural growth, some of which are large enough for saw-logs and hewing purposes, while there is also a fine, thrifty growth of young timber, which, in a few years, will be the most valuable land in the township. The general features of New Hope are not altogether unlike those of the other townships in the county, its surface being somewhat undulating, which, without being rough or broken, is yet sufficiently rolling to ensure perfect drainage even in the most unfavorable seasons.

The first settlement in this township was made by a portion of the Mormon emigrants, who tarried in the county from the year 1846 to 1852, a few of their number having settled within the present limits of New Hope, on

what is now section 31, and from a fancied resemblance to the sacred hill at Jerusalem, upon which the temple was built, it was called Mount Moriah.

These emigrants built a few temporary shanties, cleared a small piece of land, which they cultivated until 1852, when the last company left the county and followed their brethren to the Mecca of their pilgrimage—Salt Lake.

On the 9th of June, 1853, A. J. McCullock located on the site of the Mormon settlement and commenced improvements. In the same year Peter Dose, the Comers and Aaron Barker settled in the township, and the year following William and Henry Groesbeck, J. S. Lorimer, G. S. Smith, Willis Ball and a number of others here cast in their lot, and constituted what was then considered a thickly settled neighborhood.

In the fall of 1855 H. Jeter was appointed postmaster of New Hope postoffice, a weekly mail being established at that time through the township; it lying on the mail route between St. Joseph, Missouri, and Winterset, Iowa. Mr. Jeter was succeeded in office by H. Skinner, who held the position several years, the office being finally discontinued.

The first mill erected in the township was a steam saw-mill, with a set of corn burrs attached, owned by William Groesbeck, and was built on his home farm in 1857. In this mill was sawed much of the timber used in the improvements of the township.

DODGE TOWNSHIP.

In the early organization of the county, several Congressional townships were united for school and election purposes. This was the case with the present towns of Dodge and New Hope, numbered respectively 73, 29, and 73, 28, which were first organized under the name of Dodge, March 15, 1856, New Hope being set off in 1858.

In 1854 two families moved into Dodge Township and located, and they were the nucleus for the future settlement. At that time the pioneers went to Warren County to mill, and, lacking grain, their supply was brought from Greenbush, near Indianola; and such supply of corn as they needed was obtained generally on Hoosier Prairie, Madison County. After a few years it became unnecessary to go outside of Union County; these beautiful prairies were so improved that an ample supply was raised for home consumption, and generally a handsome surplus for market.

Some of the early settlers, believing that "he who plants a tree is a public benefactor," procured a supply of fruit trees and gave some attention to their cultivation, and for twenty years they have had an abundant supply of fruit both for themselves and their neighbors.

A majority of the first settlers, however, were so engrossed with the cares of opening and improving new farms that they did not attend to the matter of fruit as they might have done, and the wonder is that there is so good a showing of orchards in the county as there is to-day. Ordinary foresight and care will ensure a handsome return to any man who will plant out a good selection of fruit trees.

Dodge has a good soil and it is productive as the season makes it. From the earliest cultivation to the present time, there has been nothing like a failure in the corn crop, and generally a bountiful yield rewards the farmer for his toil.

Garden vegetables do very well. Small grain sometimes yields well, but is not a sure crop, and not as desirable to raise as corn. Grand River runs through the northeastern part of Dodge Township, and along its meandering course may be seen many beautiful locations of well-to-do farmers, whose labors have proved eminently successful. The river leaves Dodge on section 24, running thence into New Hope.

LINCOLN TOWNSHIP.

R. M. Thompson was the first settler in this

township, coming here from Monroe County, Iowa, in 1853, and built a cabin in a beautiful grove at the head of a tributary of Three-Mile Creek, on section 25. The year following he was joined by Henry Rose, James Thompson, Benjamin Thompson, J. M. Thompson, William Peck, Peter Rouser, W. B. Lewis and Hamilton Wheeler. In 1855 the following additions to their number were made: Isaac Crist, W. M. Wickham, S. L. Emerson and B. D. Bilbo. Wilson Peck improved a farm of eighty acres, on section 26, where he resided for several years. His cabin was the resting place of many a weary traveler, who may have pleasant recollections of the frugal hospitality which abounded around his hearthstone, for "Old Billy" came here before the era of patent cook-stoves.

In the winter of 1856-'7 the first death occurred in the community: Peter Rouser was the one taken from our midst; and in the fall of 1857, Isaac Crist followed his brother pioneer over the silent river. J. P. and S. L. Emerson constructed a rude coffin of rough boards, and conveyed him to his resting place in the old cemetery, near Afton, where they two alone performed the last sad offices of clergyman, friends and mourners. In 1857 J. P. Emerson built the first frame house in Lincoln Township, upon section 12, where now is the county poor farm.

In 1858-'60 nothing noteworthy occurred except the organization of the township for school and general purposes, in 1859. At the instigation of S. L. Emerson, a petition was circulated, praying for an organization of the township for general purposes, which was signed by all, though afterward dissented from by members who lived in the north part of the township, who circulated a petition praying for the organization of Lincoln Township as a Congressional township, thereby leaving out part of those who had signed the first petition, whereupon a dispute arose which narrowly escaped a permanent separation: the difficulty arose from a misunderstanding that S. L. Emerson wished to be elected county supervisor, but on receiving his assurance that such was not the case, good feeling was restored, and in the organization of the township, which occurred on the 6th day of November, 1860, the following officers were duly elected: County Supervisor, C. G. Roberts (received eight votes); Justice of the Peace, S. L. Emerson (received seven votes); Assessor, W. M. Wickham (received eleven votes); Township Trustees, B. D. Bilbo, Joseph Thompson and R. A. Abbott; Road Supervisor, R. M. Thompson; Constables, J. M. Thompson and Jacob McKnight; Township Clerk, William Peck; Township School Board, President, S. L. Emerson; Treasurer, Reuben Abbott; Secretary, William Peck.

The township was then organized under the name of Lincoln Township. In the summer of 1861, the first term of school was taught in this township, by Miss Mary F. Galbreath, now Mrs. G. W. Emerson, for which she received the munificent sum of $8 per month—receiving a two-year old heifer as part payment; in that school there were fourteen pupils on the list, of whom ten were regular attendants, only two of whom could read. In the year 1862 Lincoln Township contained thirty-two voters, of whom twenty-four were Republicans and eight Democrats.

The war record of Lincoln Township is an excellent one. Out of an able-bodied population of about thirty, seventeen enlisted in their country's service. Thirteen of these were in the Twenty-ninth Iowa.

In 1871 the township was reorganized and made its present size, a Congressional township.

SPAULDING TOWNSHIP.

This township is the youngest, in point of organization, in Union County. It was for years attached to Douglas Township for election purposes, and was considered by a majority of the early settlers to be next to worthless, there not being a stick of natural timber growing within its limits.

The first settlement made was by J. D. Spaulding and E. J. Emmons, who, in the year 1867, leaving their early homes in New York State, came West. At that time the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad was only completed to Chariton, where they left the cars, journeying by stage to Afton, and after prospecting for some time throughout the numerous townships in Union and adjoining counties, finally decided to buy the northwest quarter of section 11, which they did, in partnership, and commenced improvements. Subsequently Emmons bought Spaulding's interest, who at once improved the south half of section 1.

The other early settlers in this township were George Carter and D. Hodges, on section 29, Bergen, on section 28, Henry Toy and William C. Wood, on section 15, J. R. Powers, on section 10, and J. V. Hoakinson and J. A. Johnson, on section 14. On the completion of the railroad through the county, in 1869, a fresh impetus was given to the settlement of the previously-shunned prairie townships, and township 73, range 31, received its full share of the attention of the new-comers, and in the year following a separate organization was effected, the name being given in honor of the enterprising pioneer in the settlement—J. D. Spaulding.

At this time lands in this township were worth from $3 to $5 per acre, any quantity of which could be purchased at that figure. At the time J. D. Spaulding bought the north half of section 12 of a party near Afton, for $5 per acre, cash, the seller was so pleased at the sale, at figures above the supposed real value of the land, that he furnished the treats for all the county officers gratis. The land to-day is worth $25 per acre.

The first school in the township was taught by Miss Whipple, in Carter's house, on section 29, in 1870, she receiving $30 per month; attendance, eight scholars. While entirely destitute of natural growth of timber, which, in the estimation of the early settler, was a fatal objection, Spaulding to-day may almost be called the banner agricultural township in Union County. Containing, as it does, 22,782 acres, we may say what cannot be said of any other township: There is not one square acre of the whole that is not susceptible of easy tillage, which will yield quick and profitable returns.

DOUGLAS TOWNSHIP.

Frank Bruning and Asa Ames came to Union County at the same time, May, 1853. Bruning settled on the southwest quarter of section 34, and Ames on section 27. In September Samuel Riggs arrived at their shanty. They were not aware of any neighbors nearer than Missouri, except Indians. John Green had a band of Pottawatomies, about 100 braves, on Grand River, ten miles southeast of Afton.

Previous to Bruning and Ames' settling on the Platte they had made a selection on Grand River, and, starting from Missouri for their lands, they followed the divide between Platte and Grand Rivers. A very dark night coming on they got lost, and in their wanderings fell into Platte River. Coming out, they located as above stated.

Bruning at that time had never seen a map of Iowa, and did not know what county he was in, but was pleased with the country and satisfied to locate here.

On the 12th day of October, 1853, Mr. Riggs commenced work on a cabin of the "Tippecanoe" style, on section 30. H. Pittman John Snow, Reuben and Malon Riggs came with Riggs and took claims. By February following many others had taken claims; among them were Henry Cline, Jonathan Coons and James Howard.

Early in March, 1854, Reuben Riggs and Reuben Madden moved into the county, and Madden bought Ames' claim.

Mr. Riggs writes in Colby's Atlas: "When we were here in November we staked out a road leaving the Mormon trace where Afton now stands. Soon after our return two sur

veyors, from Glenwood, came along surveying a State road from Glenwood to Chariton. At that time there was not even an Indian trail leading east and west; but there were several running northwest and southeast. They intended to mark out the road so that it could be followed. A few days afterward four travelers undertook to follow the trace, going west past our camp about three o'clock, p. m.; it soon became very foggy, and they lost their way and wandered around until two o'clock in the morning, when they got back to Platte, a mile below our camp. There one of the party, an old man seventy-two years old, gave out and said he must rest before he could travel further; he was as comfortably cared for and bedded as saddle and blankets would allow, and then two of the party started to find our camp, while one remained with the old man and horses. The two came in sight of our camp fire and commenced hallooing. We answered them that they had passed our camp the evening before. They at once started back for their horses and companions. On returning, they found that their hallooing had frightened their horses, who had broken loose and run off, and they were left to foot it back to our camp, hungry and very much fatigued. We at once commenced preparing breakfast. We had plenty of corn meal and coffee, but fried all our bacon.

"After breakfast, the proposition was made to get mounted our two horses and meet their number to hunt their horses. The morning was still foggy; on striking the trail we found they had started off at full speed; about ten o'clock the fog blew off and we came in sight of the run aways; they had crossed their trail several times, running in a circle; as soon as they discovered us, they were as wild as elks; they were between us and our camp and run in that direction, coming up to it, they became more tame and we caught them.

"The strangers now proposed to stay until the next morning, and helped us to raise our cabin. We showed them our stock of provisions. It was found we had plenty of corn meal and coffee, and some dried fruit, but if they would stay we would send down to neighbor Bruning's, only eight miles distant, and get some meat. We accordingly started a boy off to Bruning's, on horseback, while we went to putting up house logs. In due time the boy returned, bringing the word that neither Bruning nor Ames had either beef, pork or bacon, but they had just finished dressing two fine coons, and they, with pleasure, sent us the best one.

"I mention this incident more to show the fraternal spirit which governed the pioneers in their dealings than for any other purpose. The hardships and privations endured by the first settlers were, in a great measure, modified by an open-hearted liberality, not found in more densely populated communities.

"On the 13th of April, 1854, I moved my family into our log cabin. At that time there were about eight families in what is now Platte Township, but there was no township organization. In June, 1854, we carried a petition to Judge Nun, asking for a township organization, which he granted, and included the whole southwest fourth of the county in one township, which we called 'Platte.' The first election was held at the house of H. Prentice, on the first Monday in August, 1854, at which fourteen votes were cast, and the necessary township officers were elected.

"The next accession to our settlement was William Moore, who settled on section 28; then came 'Uncle Jimmy' Lytle, who located on section 17, and the Myers family, on the same section, about July, 1854. In August, 1854, a man settled on section 6, who, in the spring of 1855 sold to William H. Terpenning.

"In 1857 Platte Township was reorganized, taking from her territory township 72, 39, now Highland; 71, 39, now Grant; and in 1861 Douglas Township was organized. The writer of this sketch carried the petition for

organization to the then county judge, Hon. J. W. McDill, who granted the prayer of the petitioners, and as no name was indicated, the Judge conferred the responsibility of christening the new township upon the writer, who unhesitatingly named it Douglas, in honor of Stephen A. Douglas, of Illinois. At the first election but seven votes were cast, to wit: J. S. Lytle, Robert Davis, D. M. and Samuel Riggs, William H. Terpenning, Thomas and William Morrow; and, for four years subsequently, the vote did not exceed fourteen at any election.

"The first years we were here, we had either to go to Compton's, near Winterset, or to Hawleyville, Page County, to get milling done, except that a small mill at Petersville would crack corn for us, provided we had any to crack.

"Blacksmiths were scarce; Frank Bruning had a few tools and, with a black-ash tree for a shop, and a rude forge, improvised for the occasion, he sharpened our plows and shod our horses for us, as necessity compelled us to patronize him.

"The first school-house in this part of the county was erected in 1855, on Reuben Madden's land, and was built of logs. It was probably more highly appreciated than are the commodious and attractive school buildings of to day.

"The settlements during the years 1855-'6 were quite rapid on Platte—Joseph Roberts, B. R. Baker, James Wishard, the Bikses, E. Orr, and others.

"The first postoffice in the west part of the county was established in 1854, S. M. Riggs, postmaster. A mail route was established from Pisgah to Glenwood the same year, and the writer was the contractor for the mail service on the route, which was carried weekly, and supplied the offices at Afton, Platte, Sciolyl, White Cloud, Indian Creek and Glenwood; the distance was one hundred miles, and not a bridge the entire distance, and very little road.

"The writer was the first justice of the peace in the west part of the county, being commissioned in 1854.

"The first saw-mill was a portable one, and was located on section 10, and was built by Terpenning & Company, in the summer of 1855. They completed their mill, sawed some, quarreled more, and spent more money at the law than they made at the saw.

"The first school-house in Douglas Township was a frame, 18 x 26, built of native lumber, sawed on Sharp's Mill, in Ringgold County, and was located on section 30. The first teacher was Miss Mary Lambert. Religious meetings were not of frequent occurrence at our first settlement, but only occasionally an itinerant preacher would call the few neighbors together and preach to them. The first sermon was preached in this township by Isaac Sidwell, at the house of the writer, in 1855; the next was by Moses Case, in 1861, at the school-house.

"The first store in Douglas Township was started by Lemon & Cresswell, in Cromwell, November, 1868; they were soon followed by J. C. Williams, in January, 1869."

Good fortune and natural advantages together have given to Douglas the largest city in Southwestern Iowa, except Council Bluffs. Creston has grown up on wild prairie in seventeen years.

HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP.

The first breaking was done in this township in 1851, by John Thompson and A. Beals, who improved the west half of section 35, township 72, range 30, which is now owned by P. L. Harsh and Henry Vincent. The same fall Abraham Myers located on the east half of section 17, where he commenced to build a log house, but before the roof was on he was taken sick, and just six weeks after he located here he was called away to his long home, leaving his widow and two sons strangers in a strange land to buffet the toils and privations of pioneer life.

After the first shock of the terrible bereavement was over, the widow and sons decided to remain on and improve the farm, which they accordingly did, and for many years they, in connection with their farming, provided entertainment for travelers, many of whom found a welcome shelter beneath their roof.

In the fall of 1855 Dr. J. A. Day came to Union County, and in the spring following he built a house in the then thriving village of Highland, where for eight years he was postmaster, and for a longer period kept the Highland House, where travelers were accustomed to refresh the inner man. At the same time, while improving a farm, he was engaged in the practice of his profession, riding for a distance of twenty miles south and west. In 1856 Matthew A. and Joseph R. Day improved the northwest quarter of section 27.

In the year 1857 Benjamin Wray, then a young man, with his wife and family, settled in Highland Township. With limited means, but with stout hands and willing heart, he commenced improving a farm on the northeast of section 29.

The same year James Lamb improved the northwest quarter of section 23. In 1858 John D. Wright improved the northeast quarter of section 23, and the same year other improvements were made in the township.

In the years 1854-'55-'6 the elections for Platte Township, which embraced the present townships of Platte, Grant, Highland and Douglas, were held at a log house on Middle Platte. March 2, 1857, Highland Township was organized, and the first election was held that year at the house of H. Prentice.

In the winter of 1855 and 1856 Messrs. Wright and Clark, owners of land on section 23, concluded to lay out a town and work for the removal of the county seat from Afton to their town, which was somewhat nearer the center of the county, and was, as they claimed, a much more sightly location.

Accordingly, Highland was platted, and interested parties at once commenced doing the talking necessary to secure the re-location of the county seat, and the consequent prosperity of the new aspirant for legislative honors. So strong indeed were the arguments and influences which were brought to bear for the attainment of that end, that a thriving village was soon built and the prospects for the successful accomplishment of the purpose were very flattering. The question of removal was submitted to a vote of the people on the first Monday in April, 1857, in which contest Afton was victorious, though by a majority of only fifteen. From that time the fortunes of Highland began to wane and the town soon after became defunct, and is now embraced in J. A. Day's farm.

Educational interests were not neglected during the exciting times of the county-seat warfare. The first school in the township was taught by William Brinkerhoff, in the summer of 1856; twenty-five scholars were in attendance, and in the following winter the number increased to thirty-five. In the summer of 1857, a new school-house was built at a cost of $1,500, which was by far the finest building in the county. From seven to nine months' school were taught each year in it until 1874, when it was sold and ceased to be used for educational purposes.

The citizens of Highland held their first Fourth of July celebration in 1856. On this occasion Jonathan Jelis read the Declaration of Independence, and the orator of the day was a young law student, James G. Day, since a member of the Supreme Bench of Iowa.

Religious services are held in the township by the Presbyterians, Methodists and also by the Congregationalists, who have a beautiful house of worship on section 32, the site being donated to them by the late Mrs. Troger.

Geographically Highland is favorably situated, being midway between Afton and Creston, insuring a good market for farm pro-

duce at either point. The south half of the township is very fine farming land and is generally well improved. The northern portion is somewhat broken and the land is much of it undesirable for tillage.

The county poor farm is located on section 12.

UNION TOWNSHIP

is one of the center townships in the county, containing the county seat, Afton, and is the second in the county in wealth and population.

The general surface features of Union are not specially noteworthy. A large proportion of its land is rolling and broken, the creeks of Twelve-Mile, Three-Mile, One-Mile, Star Branch and Indian Creek running diagonally across the township. Notwithstanding this fact, the greater proportion of its land is owned by residents, many of whom settled here at an early day from choice, selecting farms here rather than the smooth prairie more remote from the timber lands.

The first houses built within the limits of Union Township were two log-cabins on section 14, by John Edgecomb and Samuel Starr, in 1852. Edgecomb was a man of considerable prominence in the early days of the county. In the autumn of 1853 James Thompson settled here; also James Husband, who came to Petersville, and after staying a winter there, he, in 1854, located on section 26, where he entered land and built a log cabin, 18 x 20, one-story high, into which he moved his family as soon as completed. About the same time Joe Peck and family settled on section 8.

At this time the town of Petersville, on Grand River, was flourishing, and for a time was the seat of justice in the county. The assembly convened at Iowa City in 1853, having appointed a commission consisting of A. J. Hancomb, of Pottawatomie, Colonel Mills, of Cass, and Lewis T. Perry, of Clarke counties, "to locate the county seat of Union County as near the geographical center as a suitable site can be found." The question as to where the commission would locate was anxiously discussed, and, in anticipation of their action, the town of Afton was laid out in 1854 by E. A. Temple, of Chariton. The commission appointed in 1853 never met, and at the next biennial session of the Legislature another was appointed, consisting of George A. Hawley, of Decatur, S. S. Walker, of Lucas, and Adrian Miller, of Adair, who, on the 15th day of February, 1855, met and located the county seat of Union County at Afton, which at that time contained no buildings whatever.

In addition to those already named among the settlers in 1854 were N. Thompson and Oliver Mills. About this time came, also, John D. Wright, a man of fair education, good business qualifications, and was considered a valuable accession. By profession a surveyor and civil engineer, he had abundant opportunity to employ his time in surveying. He was appointed postmaster of the Pisgah postoffice, and removed the same to his house on section 26, where it remained for some months. In 1854 also came James McYoung, John Ickis, John McClanahan, who, with their families, settled in the township. David Fife, of St. Charles, Madison County, built the first house in Afton, in April, 1855, a log structure, 20 x 20, one-story, with two windows, clapboard roof and batten doors, situated in the southwest part of town, on lot 519. When the roof was half on he moved his family and a small stock of groceries into this house of a single room, and commenced retailing goods.

The next house was built by Elbert H. Smith, on the north half of the northeast quarter of section 21, adjoining the town plat.

Next William Collings built a plank cabin, 10 x 12. This also was a one-room, one-story building, but over the door was a shingle with the word "Entertainment," painted in prominent letters.

JONES TOWNSHIP.

This township is situated on the east line of Union County, and central from north to south, being 72 north, range 28 west, and is the oldest settled township in the county. It was here that the Mormons made their temporary sojourn, from 1846 to 1852, and their "Big Field," as it was called, which comprised parts of sections 7, 8, 16, 17 and 18, containing about 1,400 acres of land, was situated within its limits. It was inclosed on the north and east sides with a good fence of rails and poles, while the west and south portions were protected by Grand River, which was its boundary.

Before the last of the Mormons left, other settlers began to put in an appearance, and as any improvement was better than none at all, these new comers bought up the Mormon claims, and proceeded to make further preparation for permanent settlement.

The first settlers to arrive, other than the Mormons, were Norman Nun and Joseph B. Nun, who emigrated in 1848, from Putman County, Indiana, to Madison County, Iowa, where they remained for two years, and came to Union County in 1850. They bought Mormon claims on section 8 (Mt. Pisgah), and planted a crop at once. The same month James H. Stark came from Mahaska County with a team of horses, and bought a claim on this section.

On the 23d of May, 1850, William M. Lock ("Uncle Billy") arrived at Pisgah with his family, consisting of himself, wife and one child, and, following the example of the few who had preceded him, he also bought a shanty on section 8, and occupied it at once, where, in August following, was born the first child in the county, Charles Lock, who died, however, before attaining the years of manhood.

During the year 1851 there does not seem to have been any accessions; but in 1852 John Van Horn, Luke Shay, Henry Peters, James A. Forgey, Samuel Starr and John Edgecomb settled in this neighborhood. Henry Peters settled on the land now owned by L. G. Williamson, and started a town called Petersville. Here, in the fall of 1852, the first election in the county was held, and ten votes were polled. W. M. Lock was elected justice of the peace, and Ambrose Nun, constable; but both parties failing to qualify, the election proved a nullity. In 1851 Pisgah postoffice was established, W. M. Lock being the first postmaster. In the year 1853 John Edgecomb received the appointment of organizing sheriff of the county, and under his warrant an election was held at Pisgah—the offices to be filled being county judge, clerk and sheriff.

Notwithstanding the insignificant number of voters, there were two parties and two candidates for judge—Norman Nun and W. M. Lock: Nun being successful, receiving six votes to Lock's four.

The issue was "To organize" or "Not to organize," and Nun, being opposed to organization, affirmed that if elected he would not qualify, thus saving the expense of paying the county officers; but after the election the seductive charms of office were too much for his pledges, and accordingly, on taking the oath, he was regularly installed as county judge.

He held court in his house at Petersville, which for the time being was the county seat, and contained the only store, mill or blacksmith's shop in the county. At this election Henry Peters was elected sheriff and Joseph W. Ray, clerk. Of the other early settlers of Jones Township we may name E. Dye, Jacob Evans, John Doner, H. A. and R. A. Botleman, McDonald, Stithem, Campbell, J. and H. Weber, W. H. H. Rogers, James and Alford Read, the Bishops, I. K. White, Stephen White, J. S. Power, J. and J. S. Lefavre, S. C. Messenger, W. C. Chaney, H. Jones, Jacob Elliott, Cunningham, H. Stark, D. C. Lowe, J. Buskirk, Jackson and A. B. Brown. There are probably others, also, whose names have been overlooked.

The general features of the township, as regards surface, etc., are somewhat varied. Through the center of the township, on the divide between Grand River and Four Mile Creek, is a stretch of fine rolling prairie nearly all of which is in cultivation, and dotted with farm-houses, groves and orchards. Along Grand River bottoms are some of the best farms in the county, while the bluffs are rough and generally unimproved. On the east side of the township there is also much broken and brushy land, more desirable for grazing than for tillage. The township is exceedingly well watered.

Quarries are located near the southwes, corner of the township, which furnish an abundance of stone. Timber is plentiful, wood being used for fuel by the majority of the inhabitants.

PLEASANT TOWNSHIP,

which is situated on the southeast corner of Union, adjoining Clarke and Ringgold counties, is, perhaps, in some respects, more highly favored than any of her sister townships.

An abundance of timber is found along the course of Grand River and Twelve-Mile, consisting largely on the uplands of white and burr oak and hickory, and on the bottoms of cottonwood, elm, walnut, hackberry, ash and sycamore.

Scarcely less valuable to the permanent settler are the fine quarries of limestone, which crop out in many places, furnishing an abundant supply of stone for building and other purposes, and which are already being largely utilized by those living adjacent.

Its settlement antedates that of any other township, except Jones, and is only a few months subsequent, the first settlement in Jones being in February, 1850, and Benjamin Lamb locating here and building a cabin in September of the same year, moving into the same in February, 1851. This was the first white family in the township. His cabin, though small, was comfortable, and, with hardy frontier hospitality, he never refused food and shelter to man or beast, dividing even the last ear of corn with the weary traveler. For twenty-five years he dwelt an honored citizen in the home of his choice, surrounded by family and friends, departing this life in the early part of 1876, mourned as a neighbor beloved.

The next permanent accessions were Henry Lamb and I. P. Lamb, who came in August or September, 1851, and Amos C. Cooper, who, after a roving life of several years, concluded to settle in Iowa, and, well pleased with the sheltered lands along Grand River, he, in September, 1852, located on premises still owned by him, on section 14, where he built a log cabin and commenced improvements. In 1853 still further progress was made in settlement, and there were added to the neighborhood J. C. Armitage, C. P. Scott, A. Poe, W. H. Young and Kansel Kent. At this time the nearest house west was seventy-five miles, and Pisgah was the nearest settlement in the county.

Previous to this time the Hopeville settlement, in Clarke County, was started, and was considered a valuable addition to the neighborhood. Hickory Point, Missouri, was the nearest settlement south—thirty-five miles distant. Supplies were hauled from Keokuk or St. Joseph, and to get a bushel of wheat reduced to flour required a journey of 200 miles—100 to the mill, on the Des Moines River, and 100 in return.

The first tract of school land sold in the county was the south half of section 26, in this township by I. P. Lamb, school fund commissioner, to Benjamin Lamb, at $1.25 per acre, one-third cash, balance on ten years' time.

The first breaking in the township was by Benjamin Lamb, on southwest southwest of section 26, in 1851, and on this a crop of sod corn was raised the same year, and it has ever since produced first-class crops.

In the year 1851 came J. V. Kazenberger,

the Gripps, Andrew Cooper, Swanker, Thurlow, C. R. Hall and Levi Wright, giving the little settlement a fresh impetus; and, although numbers and finances were still limited, the faith of the pioneers was strong in their final prosperity and success.

In this year was erected the first school-house in the township, a log structure on section 14, long known as "Cooper's old school-house," and the first school in it was taught in the fall of 1851 by one Parker Grafton, of Ohio, whose salary was paid by the subscriptions of the patrons of the school. The same fall a school was taught by Kensel Kent, one-half the time in a cabin owned by Benjamin Lamb, situated near the present Lamb residence; the other half in Kent's house, some twelve or thirteen scholars being in attendance, among them Oliver J. Scott, O. Lamb and T. J. Lamb. The Board of Directors were E. Bellows, C. G. Scott and Kensel Kent, and the teacher's salary was paid by subscription.

During this year the first adult death in the settlement occurred. Mrs. Isaac P. Lamb, who, with her infant babe, was buried in one grave on a high timbered knoll on sections 26 and 27, the land being dedicated for cemetery purposes by Benjamin Lamb and C. P. Scott. The nearest physician, in cases of sickness, was Dr. Thompson, of Decatur City, twenty-two miles away. Only a few months intervened between the death of Mrs. Lamb and that of Henry Lamb, which occurred in September or October of the same year (1854), and soon afterward C. G. Scott, Wm. Lawrence, the two Andersons, father and son, Wallace and John Wright were taken from our midst by the same cause.

It was at the house of Benjamin Lamb that his son, I. P. Lamb, first school land commissioner of the county (who was appointed in the fall of 1853 and qualified April 20, 1854) had his office, and it was here that the first school land sale in the county occurred, there being over 100 men present, some of whom swam Grand River to be on hand in time to save their claims.

The township was organized by Judge Norman Nun, March 17, 1854, the official record being, verbatim: "March 17, 1854, township 71 north, range 28 west, by the name of Pleasant Township, was duly organized by me this day.

Signed, "NORMAN his ⋊ mark. NUN,

"*County Judge of Union County, Iowa.*"

The question of naming the township was discussed when the petition was presented, and by direction of the judge, A. C. Cooper, one of the petitioners, being present, decided the matter by christening it Pleasant. During the years 1855 or 1856 settlements rapidly increased, and many new comers cast in their lots here, amongst whom were Francis Cornwall and T. C. Roberts, who settled on sections 29 and 31, and were prominently identified with the interests of the township.

During the first years of settlement, the lands along the streams, near timber, were alone considered valuable, a whole township of bleak prairie land being hardly worth a shilling an acre in the estimation of settlers. A hewed log house was a first-class residence, and a bedstead or a rocking-chair was almost unknown. So late as 1856 there was but one horse-team in the township, oxen being generally depended on for all work.

SAND CREEK TOWNSHIP.

The organization of this township dates back to October 8, 1860, when the organizing election was held at the house of R. C. Carter, nine votes being cast on this occasion.

Previous to this date, the township was very sparsely settled, and near neighbors were several miles away. R. C. Carter, I. and J. P. Long, J. C. Wick, the Shillings, A. Bonnifield, Kelsaw and Lee were the first settlers in the township and were all here at the date of organization.

The first settlers generally located along the north part of the township near Twelve-Mile Creek and the timber lands convenient thereto, the south part being altogether destitute of timber.

Rev. John Clough, J. L. Syp, Clark, Anderson, Oliver, Holmes, Kenny, Berry, Mayhew and Wilson were among the number who succeeded the first named settlers in sticking their stakes and locating among us, and since the year 1864 the settlement has been more rapid and permanent.

Geographically Sand Creek is desirably situated, the north line being less than five miles from the county seat, market and railroad depot of Afton. The streams of Twelve-Mile, Sand Creek, from which the township took its name, and Squaw Creek, besides many small tributaries, drain the township thoroughly and prevent any pools of water from stagnating and bringing malarial diseases.

Its great advance in population and wealth is largely due to the fact that the soil is of a very superior quality. The citizens are entirely agriculturists; there are no professional men, merchants, manufacturers nor mechanics, no noisy politicians nor unscrupulous speculators, but many far-seeing calculators, who are laying by for the rainy days to come. Europe, Africa and America are represented in its citizenship, living side by side pleasantly and peaceably, each one attending to his own business and not to that of his neighbors.

GRANT TOWNSHIP.

Grant Township is situated on the line between Union and Ringgold, and on the second tier from the west line of the county. In the Congressional subdivision it is numbered 71-30, and contains 23,0[illegible] acres of land. The early settlers in this, as in all other localities, seem to have been governed by a like impulse—to secure homes near some stream protected by a grove or belt of timber. As a consequence, the prairie townships, though possessing superior advantages for agricultural and grazing purposes, were shunned by the early settlers, and were unoccupied for many years after the timbered lands were settled. While the country was sparsely occupied, it became necessary to unite several Congressional townships or parts of townships for election, school and civil purposes, and under such an arrangement, what is now Grant Township was united with Highland. At a meeting of the County Board of Supervisors, September 9, 1870, it appearing that there was a sufficient number of persons resident in township 71-30, to justify their separate organization, it was ordered that they be so organized, and that the election be held at the house of R. J. McKee, on section 16. This election was held on the second Tuesday of October, 1870, when twenty-six votes were polled, and the necessary officers were chosen to properly transact the business of the township, which, in honor of the then President of the United States, was named "Grant."

The general features of this township are not unlike those of others of the county. It is for the most part gently undulating, well watered, yet thoroughly drained, with no high hills and very little flat land, which so often fosters malarial diseases. The soil is a deep, rich, sandy loam, exceedingly fertile, and nearly the whole township is prairie land, small patches of brush and timber on sections 12, 13, 25, 31 and 36, in all less than 300 acres, being the only exception. When rightly appreciated, the rich, rolling prairies present very superior advantages, which, of late years, the people have begun to appreciate, and all over this township, which, for so many years, was avoided, may now be seen beautiful groves, thrifty orchards, cozy farm houses, and the happy faces of intelligent, well-to-do farmers, who have here pitched their tents, and whose industry and integrity are a sufficient guarantee that homes of comfort and affluence will be the guerdon of their toil.

Considerable attention has been devoted, of late years, to the improving of the stocks of cattle and hogs, and, at this time, some as fine animals as can be found in herds of celebrated breeders may be seen in the pastures of Grant's enterprising citizens. The first settler within the limits of the township was Asa Ames, who, in the spring of 1851, left the settlement on Platte, and built a shanty on section 34. Samuel Ruby next settled on the southwest quarter of section 36, but sold, the same fall, to John Shockey. During the summer of 1854 John Thompson settled on the west half northwest quarter of section 2. In 1856 a place was improved by John Cain, and A. J. Snyder settled.

In 1863 there was less than 500 acres broken, all told, in the township; the deer and the coyote roamed over the prairie unmolested; the latter often making night hideous with their howls.

PLATTE TOWNSHIP

is situated in the southwest corner of Union County, and is known as 71 north, 31 west and embraces six miles square of beautiful, diversified prairie and timber lands. It is watered by the West, Middle and East branches of the Platte River, which enter its territory at different points along its northern and western border, and form a junction near the southwest corner. West and Middle Platte have groves of oak, hickory, black walnut, elm, and other timber along their whole course through this township, and East Platte is also timbered to some extent with the same species; the quantity of native timber in the township being estimated at 2,500 acres.

This part of the county consists principally of plateaus of beautiful rolling prairie, with occasionally a tract of bottom land adjacent to the streams, the divides being usually nearly level. Although the surface is rolling, it cannot be said that there is anything approaching to a hill in the extent of the township.

The prairie soil, being from one to four feet deep, produces good crops of corn, oats, rye, wheat and other serial and root crops, which, with all kinds of vegetables and fruit, thrive exceedingly, it having the quality of standing drouth and wet equally well.

As far as known, there is no stone in the township, and but very little sand or gravel; some farms cannot boast even a pebble stone within their entire bounds. In a few places in the clay lands on Middle Platte brick have been made. The striking features of Platte Township are the richness of its soil, the gentle roll of its undulating surface, sufficient drainage, and heavy growth of vegetable matter

Water is obtained by digging from eight to thirty-five feet in depth, is of very good quality, generally soft.

On the 24th of May, 1853, the first settlement in this township was made by F. H. Bruning, who located near the center of section 34, built a log cabin, started a blacksmith's shop, repaired the Indian's guns, and employed himself in hunting, etc., Asa Ames locating at the same time about one mile north of him, and the first white child born in the township was in his family.

In the fall of the same year Jonathan Coons and James Howard located on section 33; the summer of 1854 brought I. Snow, Reuben Riggs, and others of his family, also Reuben Madden, who built the first schoolhouse in 1855.

About this time and in the spring of 1856, the inhabitants began to increase and multiply, especially along the Middle Platte. We may here name I. Walker, S. Glasco, G. Seeley, the Blisses, Wishard and Pinkley, who came about that time, making their home in this township.

The neighbors of the early settlers were Pottawatomie Indians, who used to bespeak the good offices of Franz Bruning to repair their guns, which he would do on condition of their refraining to hunt in his grove, the

consequence being that game literally swarmed around his cabin, the red men keeping good faith in all their promises and dealings, and making many presents of bee trees containing honey.

The land was surveyed by the Government in 1852, and during the years from 1853 to 1856 about nine-tenths of the entire territory was entered by speculators or non-residents with Mexican land warrants, and in the latter years the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad land grant took up the balance.

After this, there being no land to enter, the tide of emigration passed westward for many years, until 1874, the abundant crops in the county and the ravages of the grasshoppers further west induced a heavy settlement, and the speculators found a ready market for their lands at good figures, most of which has been improved by the purchasers.

Union City, though now passed out of existence, demands a passing notice; it was laid out by E. Orr, in 1855, and, after a "one-horse" existence of about fifteen years, it died a natural death, its glory and greatness, and also its postoffice, being transferred to Kent and Lenox. The "city" is now planted with corn, and only exists on some of the older maps.

The Hopkins branch of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, which runs through the western part of the township, passes through Kent, a thriving little town of about 100 inhabitants, which is mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Artificial groves of timber have been planted on almost every farm. These, with large orchards, and long lines of willow and osage hedges, have so marked out the lines and roads, that we no longer look for prairie, but fields.

Wire fences have taken the place of worm and board fences, white frame houses are found instead of log, and many good barns and cattle sheds. The corn is better cribbed than formerly, but, as a general thing, most men work too much land to do it well.

There are nine school-houses in the township, maintained at an expense of about $3,000 annually. The voting population is about 200. For such a rich soil, water and timber privileges, there is no place in the Western country where land is so cheap.

The value of all farming land is its productions. After sixteen years' experience in cropping, we set the yield of corn at 40 to 50 bushels; oats, 20 to 70; wheat, 10 to 20; potatoes, 100 to 200. Of grass, no country can excel as in yield: from one and a half to three tons of timothy and clover is the ordinary yield. Some farmers put up fifty to 200 tons of hay. The raising of fine horses is now receiving more attention. We have good roads and bridges, and are within two hours' drive of Kent, Creston, Lenox and Clearfield. The foregoing statistics were furnished by J. H. Lemon.

The Territory now embraced in Union County was in the legal and actual possession of the Indians until 1850. Theoretically it was a part of Des Moines County previous to that date. From 1847 to 1851 it was partly in the provisional county of Pottawatomie. In the latter year it was designated as a county, with its present limits, and attached as a civil township to the county of Clarke in 1852. Previous to this year it was attached to Wapello, which had been organized in 1844.

The etymology of the name of the county is obvious. The county was established immediately after an intense popular agitation in regard to the institution of slavery, which agitation at one time seemed to threaten a dissolution of the Union; and at a period when it was widely supposed that the whole subject of slavery, so far as the Nation was concerned, had been finally disposed of by the compromise measures of 1850, and the union of the States thereby effectually preserved.

For statutory action in regard to the for-

mation of Union County see Acts Third General Assembly, Chapter IX; First General Assembly, Chapter LXXXIV; Sixth General Assembly, Chapter C; Fourth General Assembly, Chapters VIII and XI; Fifth General Assembly, Chapter XLIII.

With the commencement of the year 1852 Union County was little else than a boundless prairie wilderness. The boundaries had been established by the General Assembly and the lands surveyed; but the total population was less than 100 persons. The settlement of Pisgah and that in Lamb's neighborhood was the sum total, and, although some twelve miles apart, they considered themselves near neighbors. In the early part of 1852 there were added to the population of the Pisgah settlement John Van Horn, who settled on Four-Mile Creek; Henry Peters, who settled at and platted the town of Petersville; James A. Forger, afterward prosecuting attorney, Samuel Starr and John Edgecomb. The Lamb neighborhood was increased by the accession of A. C. Cooper and family.

At this time Union was attached to Clarke County, for civil and judicial purposes, and in July, 1852, a warrant was issued for an election to be held at Petersville, August 1, to elect one justice of the peace and one constable. The election was duly held, and W. M. Lock was chosen justice of the peace, and Ambrose P. Nun, constable; both officers, however, resigning within one year subsequent to their election.

About this time occurred the first religious meeting held in the county. Rev. David Swein, a zealous circuit-rider of the Methodist Episcopal church, eminent for piety, zeal and devotion to the work, held a meeting at the house of Norman Nun and preached to a little congregation of hearers. He was the pioneer preacher of the county, his circuit extending from Chariton west, to make which four weeks' time was taken, the minister preaching every day—generally in the cabins of settlers—and traveling in the primitive manner usual among the itinerant ministry of that day, on horse-back, with his wardrobe, Bible and hymn-book carried in his saddle-bags, no cabin being too humble for him to visit in discharging the duties of his calling; and by his zeal and devotion he greatly endeared himself to the people of his sparsely-settled parish.

In the year 1853, January 12, John Edgecomb, of Petersville, received a warrant as organizing sheriff of Union County, by virtue of which an election was held at Pisgah, resulting in the choice of Norman Nun for county judge; Joseph W. Ray for clerk, and Henry Peters, sheriff. At the election there were ten votes cast; and, upon the qualifying of the officers elect, Union County became an independent organization.

It is claimed that there were two candidates for judge, Norman Nun and W. M. Lock, who, in a private caucus, out of courtesy agreed to vote for each other, but when the time came Nun failed to live up to his part of the agreement, voting for and electing himself, the vote being Nun six, Lock four. The judge elect was, by trade, a blacksmith; was profane and illiterate, yet possessed with the idea that by virtue of the position the word of a judge was law.

It is told by certain parties who were appointed appraisers on an estate, that they called upon Judge Nun to be sworn, which ceremony he refused to perform, saying it was unnecessary. "But," remonstrated one of the parties, "we wish to proceed legally, and cannot do so until we are sworn." The honorable judge thereupon waxed wroth, and, in language more expressive than polite, informed the appraisers that, "By G—d, the word of the judge is law; go about your business, and obey the order of this Court," which they finally did without having been sworn.

The first official act of Judge Nun was to receive the resignation of A. P. Nun, constable, June 22, 1853, and also to receive that of J. S. Canfield, August 8, 1853.

The first marriage license issued by Judge Nun was dated August 13, 1853, and reads: "On this day appeared Thomas Nun to me for license of the marriage of himself to Sarah Starr. I am acquainted with the parties and know them to be of competent age and qualification.

his
"Signed, NORMAN ⋊ NUN,
mark.
"*Judge.*"

In August, 1853, John Edgecomb, having a claim against Samuel Starr, brought suit before Judge Nun, who issued the papers, which were served by Henry Peters, sheriff, August 15; and the trial was set for August 20. It is said by parties who were present, that M. L. McPherson, of Winterset, appeared for defendant Starr, and entered a demurrer, alleging as cause that the Court had no jurisdiction, being only competent to transact county and probate business.

This remark aroused the righteous indignation of Judge Nun, who, flourishing his cane to give emphasis to his words, informed the attorney that, by G—d, this Court *has* jurisdiction, and *will* try the case. Having no other defense, Starr and his legal adviser withdrew, and judgment was rendered for $40.19, with interest and costs.

An execution was at once issued, and placed in the hands of Sheriff Peters, who, on going to Starr's house to make the levy, was met with some threats, and he, being a timid man, repaired at once to Petersville, where he summoned a posse and returned to make the levy. Starr, in the meantime, determined, if he could not defeat his adversary in one way, that he would do it in another—set his dogs on a two-year-old colt (the only piece of personal property he had subject to levy), and so crippled it as to render it worthless. The records show that the sheriff levied on the colt, and also on Starr's claim to the north half of the southwest quarter of section 14, and east half of the southeast quarter of section 15, township 72, range 29; but whether the execution was ever satisfied does not appear.

The next record of Judge Nun was the organization of Pleasant Township, March 17, 1854.

Numerous other acts of Judge Nun are recorded, but nothing of special interest. It is related by an old settler that at one time subsequent to that already referred to, appraisers were to be sworn, and the judge, having probably concluded that their acts would be more binding if they were sworn, called upon John D. Wright, who was present, to read the oath to the parties, which he did, they holding up their hands and the judge receiving their affirmation. It may be proper to state that Judge Nun could neither read nor write his name, being entirely innocent of the first principles of an English education.

In the fall of 1853 Judge A. A. Bradford came to Petersville to hold court, but there being no business he stopped over night with John Edgecomb, and then proceeded on his circuit, which embraced a large portion of the southwest part of the State.

In September, 1854, was held the first term of District Court in the county, at the house of Benjamin McGaha, he receiving a county warrant for $2 for the use of same.

Mrs. Elizabeth Peters furnished a room for the use of grand jury at the same term, for which she received county order No. 14, for $5.

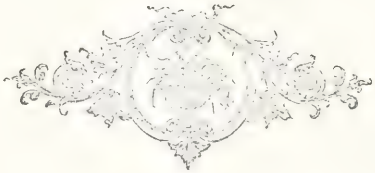
The officers of this Court were as follows: A. A. Bradford, Judge; N. Thompson, Sheriff; James Thompson, Clerk; A. S. Stithem, Bailiff; A. C. Cooper, Special Constable; Grand Jury—E. H. Smith, Foreman; Dexter Ammerine, J. V. Katzenbarger, S. Taylor, Andrew Cooper, Norman Nun, Joseph Peck, I. P. Lamb, J. C. Armitage, William Nun, R. Thompson and A. C. Poe.

The attorneys present were E. H. Sears, M. L. McPherson, John Leonard, S. E. McCracken and J. A. Tuggy. There is no

record of any business transacted at this term, but the tradition is that one case, viz.:

State of Iowa vs. John Edgecomb and W. A. Nun.	Breach of the peace—was tried, judgment being rendered against defendants, who were fined $5 each and costs.

John Leonard, then a young attorney, who was in attendance, was, it is said, so tall of stature that when he stood up his head was above the ceiling joists of the very low cabin, used for a court room. The papers and briefs of the Court had to be kept in place by stones and sticks, the extra ventilation of the room compelling this precaution.



POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL.

IN the political chapter of the Ringgold County History, in this volume, has been given a brief sketch of American politics, which need not be repeated here. Suffice it to say that when Union County came into organic existence the Democracy was in full power at Washington, while the Whig party was in its death throes. So far as local interests permitted the voting population of the county to divide on political issues in those days, Union was a Democratic county. It remained so for some time after the organization of the Republican party, to whose platform Iowa was converted by Governor Grimes.

War issues, however, brought about a defection here as through the North, from the ranks of the Democracy, and Union County was Republican from 1860, by varying but increasing majorities. For some fifteen years the county offices were monopolized by Republicans. The majority for Grant in 1868 was 136, in a total vote of 840. Four years later the Republican majority was 502. Then came the Anti-monopoly movement, which one year carried the county by storm. Partially recovering, the straight Republican ticket was then successful each year until the days of "fusion," which began in 1878.

The "Greenback idea" was early popular in Union County, and over 400 votes were cast for Cooper for President in 1876. The county has always been a stronghold of Greenbackism, and now is spoken of as the banner county in the State, as regards voting strength. There are from 200 to 300 more Greenbackers than Democrats in Union County, and while neither party is as strong as the Republican, the two, united on a fusion ticket, can carry the county often by from 100 to 200. This policy has been carried out usually the last eight years, during which time the Republicans have held about half of the local offices, and the Greenbackers and Democrats have amicably divided their half of the "spoils."

As to the political leaning of the several townships and voting precincts:

New Hope is always close, with a Republican tendency. Jones is now strongly fusion, but was originally the Democratic stronghold of the county. Pleasant was Republican until fusion came in vogue, when it was usually fusion; now, however, it is frequently Republican by small majorities. Sand Creek has a strong Greenback population, and is always solid for fusion. Union was originally Republican, but is now for fusion, the Greenbackers being numerous. Afton is always Republican. Dodge gives a small

fusion majority. Lincoln can be relied upon for a substantial fusion majority. Highland has lately been Republican, but was formerly in the fusion ranks. Grant gives a Republican majority. Platte is close and varies in its preferences. Douglas oscillates, but is usually Republican by a dangerously-slight figure. Creston has a large floating population, whose character is changing from year to year, and as it casts nearly half the vote of the county its leaning is usually an important matter. It is spoken of as the "unknown quantity" in political matters. Creston gave a small majority against prohibition. Spaulding gives a small Republican majority. Cromwell is always Republican.

DISTRICTS.

For senatorial representation Union was for the Fifth General Assembly put in a district with Mills, Montgomery, Adams, Ringgold, Taylor, Page and Fremont counties.

This was in 1854, and the district remained the same until 1860, when, the population of all the eight counties having increased, a rearrangement was effected, by virtue of which Ringgold, Taylor, Adams, Union and Clarke formed the Sixth Senatorial District. Two years later Clarke was taken from the district and Page and Montgomery added. From 1866 to 1870 the district was the same, except that Ringgold was detached and added to Decatur, to make the Sixth District, while the district containing Union was known as the Seventh. Beginning with 1870 for six years the county was joined to Clarke and Lucas, under the name of the Sixth District. Then for one session of the Legislature, Adair, Cass, Adams and Union formed the Seventeenth District, after which the previous arrangement of counties was returned to for two years, the district being known as the Fifth. Since January 1, 1884, Ringgold, Taylor and Union counties have formed the Sixth Senatorial District.

In the lower branch of the General Assembly, Union was from 1854 to 1856 in the Fortieth District, with Mills, Montgomery, Adams, Adair, Audubon and Cass. In the next Assembly Lucas, Clarke and Union formed the Tenth District. In the Seventh General Assembly, 1858 and 1859, the Forty-Fourth District included this county, together with Adams, Page, Taylor and Ringgold counties. In 1860 and 1861 it was attached to Adams, Adair and Cass Counties, as the Sixteenth District. For two years thereafter, Taylor, Ringgold and Union Counties formed one district, known as the Sixty-Second. Next, with Adams and Montgomery it was known as the Sixty-fifth for one session, and the Sixty-sixth for another. In 1868 and 1869, it formed the Sixty-eighth District with Adams. From 1870 to 1873, there was the same arrangement, but the number was the Fourteenth. From 1874 to 1877, Ringgold County was substituted for Adams, and since then Union has been entitled to a representative by itself.

For a short time, under the old Constitution, Union and twenty-nine other counties, forming a district as large as many Eastern States, and extending to the north line of Iowa, constituted the Sixth Judicial District. February 9, 1857, Ringgold and Union were added to the Ninth District, which contained six other counties—Appanoose, Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne. Under the Constitution of 1857, Adams, Cass, Clarke, Decatur, Fremont, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Pottawatomie, Ringgold and Union Counties were constituted the Third Judicial District. Cass was detached in 1861, and Fremont, Mills and Pottawatomie in 1872.

For Congressional representation Union was in the First District until 1863; then the Fifth until 1873; and since then the Eighth.

OFFICIAL.

August 19, 1855, the first regular county election was held, resulting in the return of the following officers: J. B. Dawson, Judge; N.

Thompson, Sheriff; T. M. M. Robinson, Recorder and Treasurer; J. F. Ickis, Surveyor. The officers elected each year since the organization of the county with years of service are as follows:

COUNTY JUDGES.

Norman Nun, 1853–'4; David C. Lowe, 1854–'5; J. B. Dawson, 1855–'6; J. W. Alley, 1856–'7; James Blanchard, 1858–'9; James W. McDill, 1860–'1; N.W. Rowell, 1862–'3; I. N. Cherry, 1864–'5; J. F. Bishop, 1866–'8. Office abolished.

CLERKS OF COURTS.

J. W. Ray, 1853; W. M. Lock, 1853; D. C. Lowe, 1854; James Thompson, 1854–'6 James Blanchard, 1856; E. M. Buckley, 1857; J. M. Rigour, 1858; H. A. Botleman, 1858–'64; G. W. Beymer, 1865–'68; A. F. Ickis, 1869–'72; E. J. Emmons, 1873–'80; B. T. Nix, 1881.

SHERIFFS.

Henry Peters, 1853–'4; N. Thompson, 1854; A. J. Patterson, 1855; N. Thompson, 1856–'7; Ira Seeley, 1858–'9; N. Thompson, 1860–'1; L. K. Myers, 1862; L. Raguet, 1863; J. Elliott, 1864–'5; M. Carter, 1866–'9; F. M. Richey, 1870–'7; R. J. McKee, 1878–'81; M. Blanchard, 1882–'5; Thomas G. Snair, 1886.

TREASURERS AND RECORDERS.

A. C. Cooper, 1851–'5; A. R. Bowen, 1855; T. M. Robinson, 1856–'63; T. J. Myers, 1864. Offices separated.

TREASURERS.

T. J. Myers, 1865; Ira Seeley, 1866–'9; W. T. Cornwall, 1870–'3; L. A. Helt, 1874–'5; Anson Skinner, 1876–'81; H. W. Perrigo, 1882–'3; J. F. Ickis, 1884.

RECORDERS.

E. F. Sullivan, 1865; J. F. Bishop, 1866; O. E. Davis, 1867–'8; J. C. Lucas, 1869–'72; B. F. Martz, 1873–'6; G. W. Emerson, 1877–'80; J. H. Crawford, 1881.

AUDITORS.

J. F. Bishop, *ex-officio*, 1869; E. C. Wilcox, 1870–'3; H. A. Botleman, 1874–'7; Frank M. Emerson, 1878–'81; Charles H. Fuller, 1882–'3; Morton Miller, 1884.

SURVEYORS.

J. D. Wright, 1853–'5; J. F. Ickis, 1855–'7; L. K. Myers, 1858–'61; J. D. Wright, 1862; John Doulin, 1863; J. S. Lorimer, 1864–'5; William Painter, 1866–'7; F. Sommer, 1868–'9; J. McYoung, 1870–'5; G. C. Kirby, 1876; A. J. White, 1877; M. V. Ashby, 1878–'9; J. H. Brown, 1880–'1; Robert Maxwell, 1882–'3; I. S. Roseberry, 1884.

SCHOOL-FUND COMMISSIONERS.

I. P. Lamb, 1853–'5; J. F. Ickis, 1855; Reuben Riggs, 1856–'7. Office abolished.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

James W. McDill, 1858–'9; W. C. Coldwell, 1860–'3; J. A. Day, 1864–'5; J. F. Syp, 1866–'7; A. Robbins, 1868–'9; T. Roberts, 1870–'1; J. M. Milligan, 1872–'5; Miss J. E. Lester, 1876–'7; J. D. Thomas, 1878–'81; W. C. Yard, 1882–'3; George Delmege, 1884–'5; C. B. Stayt, 1886.

SUPERVISORS (TOWNSHIP SYSTEM).

1869.—H. A. Botleman, Jones, Chairman; P. Seeley, New Hope; J. Doty, Dodge; J. P. Emerson, Lincoln; James Lytle, Douglas; J. White, Highland; D. A. Wycoff, Union; A. C. Cooper, Pleasant; R. C. Carter, Sand Creek, and Josiah Elliott, Platte.

1870.—A. C. Cooper, Pleasant, Chairman; R. Shay, New Hope; James Doty, Dodge; J. P. Emerson, Lincoln; James Lytle, Douglas; James A. White, Highland; D. A. Wycoff, Union; Samuel Bard, Jones; James L. Syp, Sand Creek, and Josiah Elliott, Platte.

SUPERVISORS (BOARD OF THREE).

1871.—S. W. McElderry, Chairman; Ira Seeley and James A. White.

1872.—S. W. McElderry, Chairman; Ira Seeley and Samuel Riggs.

1873.—Samuel Riggs, Chairman; William Groesbeck and George A. Ide.

1874.—William Groesbeck, Chairman; George A. Ide and I. K. White.

1875.—George A. Ide, Chairman; I. K. White and C. G. Shull.

1876.—I. K. White, Chairman; C. G. Shull and George A. Ide.

1877.—C. G. Shull, Chairman; George A. Ide and Marshall Law.

1878.—George A. Ide, Chairman; Marshall Law and A. Dickinson.

1879.—Marshall Law, Chairman; A. Dickinson and W. R. Towne.

1880.—A. Dickinson, Chairman: W. R. Towne and Squire Olinger.

SUPERVISORS (BOARD OF FIVE).

1881.—C. G. Shull, Chairman; Squire Olinger, C. J. Colby, D. H. Brooks and Morton Miller.

1882.—Squire Olinger, Chairman; C. G. Shull, Morton Miller, D. H. Brooks and J. B. Wilson.

1883.—Morton Miller, Chairman; D. H. Brooks, J. B. Wilson, C. G. Shull and Frank Hudson.

1884.—J. B. Wilson, Chairman; C. G. Shull, D. H. Brooks, Frank Hudson and R. C. Delmage.

1885.—D. H. Brooks, Chairman; C. G. Shull, R. C. Delmage, Frank Hudson and J. Armstrong.

1886.—R. C. Delmage, Chairman; J. Armstrong, Thomas Cort, F. R. Wolfe and Benjamin Hubbell.

DISTRICT JUDGES.

Allen A. Bradford, 1854; E. H. Sears, 1855–'7; John S. Townsend, 1857; E. H. Sears, 1858–'62; James G. Day, 1863–'70; James W. McDill, 1870–'2; J. R. Reed, 1872–'3; Samuel Forrey, 1873–'8; R. C. Henry, 1879–82; John W. Harvey, 1883.

CIRCUIT JUDGES.

James W. McDill, 1869–'73; J. W. Hewitt, 1873–'8; D. D. Gregory, 1878–'84; John Chaney, 1884.

REPRESENTATIVES.

D. W. Scoville, 1856–'7; W. B. Davis, 1858–'9; K. W. Macomber, 1860–'1; Reuben A. Moser, 1862–'3; W. B. Davis, 1864–'5; A. K. Crawford, 1866–'7; Neal W. Rowell, 1868–'71; Franklin M. Davis, 1872–'3; Andrew Johnson, 1874–'5; S. W. McElderry, 1876–'7; James Doty, 1878–'9; Francis M. Richey, 1880–'1; Anson P. Stephens, 1882–'3; George Derr, 1884–'5; William H. Robb, 1886.

SENATORS.

George W. Lucas, 1854–'5; Samuel Dale, 1856–'9; J. C. Hagans, 1860–'3; L. W. Hillyer, 1864–'7; N. B. Moore, 1868–'9; James D. Wright, 1870–'1; Robert A. Dague, 1872–'5; Lafayette Young, 1876–'7; Samuel L. Bestow, 1878–'9; William L. Wilson, 1880–'3; Anson P. Stephens, 1884.

CONGRESSMEN.

Bernhart Henn, 1853–'5; Augustus Hall, 1855–'7; Samuel R. Curtis, 1857–'63; John A. Kasson, 1863–'7; Grenville M. Dodge, 1867–'9; Frank W. Palmer, 1869–'73; James W. McDill, 1873–'7; W. F. Sapp, 1877–'81; W. P. Hepburn, 1881.

CRUSHING THE REBELLION.

ABOUT daybreak on the 12th of April, 1861, the stillness of Charleston Bay was disturbed by the firing of a large mortar and the shriek of a shell as it rushed through the air. The shell burst over Fort Sumter, and the war of the great Rebellion was begun. In the North the hope had been tenaciously clung to that the peace of the country was not to be disturbed. This dream was rudely broken by the siege of Fort Sumter. The North awakened suddenly to the awful certainty that civil war was begun. There was a deep feeling of indignation at the traitors who were willing to ruin their country that slavery might be secure. There was a full appreciation of the danger, and an instant universal determination that, at whatever cost, the national life must be preserved. Personal sacrifice was unconsidered; individual interests were merged in the general good. Political difference, ordinarily so bitter, was for the time almost effaced. Nothing was of interest but the question how this audacious rebellion was to be suppressed and the American Nation upheld in the great place which it claimed among men.

Two days after the fall of Fort Sumter, Mr. Lincoln intimated by proclamation the dishonor done to the laws of the United States, and called out the militia to the extent of 75,000 men. The free States responded enthusiastically to the call. So prompt was their action that on the very next day several companies arrived in Washington. Flushed by their easily-won victory, the Southrons talked boastfully of seizing the capital. In a very short time there were 50,000 loyal men ready to prevent that, and the safety of Washington was secured.

The North pushed forward with boundless energy her warlike preparations. Rich men offered money with so much liberality that in a few days nearly $25,000,000 had been contributed. The school-teachers of Boston dedicated fixed proportions of their incomes to the support of the Government while the war should last. All over the country the excited people gathered themselves into crowded meetings and breathed forth in fervid resolutions their determinations to spend fortune and life in defense of the Union. Volunteer companies were rapidly formed. In the cities ladies began to organize themselves for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers. It had

been fabled that the North would not fight. With a fiery promptitude unknown before in modern history the people sprang to arms.

Under the call of President Lincoln for 75,000 volunteers, the quota of Iowa was fixed at one regiment. The response was prompt from all parts of the State, and from none more hearty than from Union County. Iowa proved herself the peer of any loyal State. The proclamation of her Governor, responsive to that of the President, calling for volunteers to compose her First Regiment, was issued on the fourth day after the fall of Sumter. At the end of only a single week men enough were reported to be in quarters (mostly in the vicinity of their own homes) to fill the regiment. These, however, were hardly more than a tithe of the number who had been offered by company commanders for acceptance under the President's call. So urgent were these offers that the Governor requested (on the 24th of April) permission to organize an additional regiment. While awaiting an answer to this request he conditionally accepted a sufficient number of companies to compose two additional regiments. In a short time he was notified that both of these would be accepted. Soon after the completion of the Second and Third regiments (which was near the close of May) the Adjutant-General of the State reported that upward of 170 companies had been tendered to the Governor to serve against the enemies of the Union.

Union County had at this time but about 2,000 inhabitants. With a population mainly devoted to agriculture, who knew nothing of war except by history or tradition, it could hardly be expected that a warlike spirit would soon disturb the peaceful population. But we know little of the fire that slumbers in quiet breasts until occasion calls it forth. Immediately after the news was flashed through this county that civil war was begun public excitement ran so high that it could not longer confine itself to promiscuous expression about the street corners, and people held informal and formal meetings in the city halls and country school-houses everywhere.

About thirty-five men were recruited in Union County for the Fourth Iowa Infantry, and were assigned to Company H. These were:

Jesse W. Arnold, Amos W. Ames, W. H. Bartlett, J. F. Bishop, William B. Barker, A. M. Brinkerhoof, Dennis Conger, Thomas Cochrane, Philip Cobler, James R. Campbell, John B. Forgey, John Heckathorn, Frederick Hoover, Ayers Jinks, James L. Killion, D. D. Linsley, John S. Messenger, Abraham Moore, J. Irving Morris, Hiram Pearce, Elijah Pearce, T. J. Pearson, David Reese, William R. Reese, W. S. Rodgers, John A. Smith, Dennis Stump, Jesse Thompson, John T. Wright, Clarke Walker, F. Westover, Alpheus Walkup and John D. Whitney.

James J. Hafer went out as Second Lieutenant of this company, but resigned October 13, 1861. Joshua F. Bishop (now editor of the *Tribune-News* at Afton) was promoted from Sergeant to Second Lieutenant, and acted for a time as Adjutant, and also as Commissary of supplies. His last commission was that of a Captain, but he did not serve in that capacity.

HISTORY OF THE FOURTH IOWA.

This regiment was formed in the southwestern part of the State, Company H being raised from Union and Adams, with some assistance from Cass County. It was organized at Council Bluffs, in the summer of 1861, and consisted of 940 rank and file, besides officers, Colonel (afterward Major-General) Dodge taking command. While the regiment was at Council Bluffs a number of the horse thieves, bushwhackers and guerrillas of Missouri, who styled themselves Confederates, thinking that all or most of the men had left the border counties of Iowa, and were fighting in the Union army, arranged a raid into Page County, intending, as their custom was,

to drive away all the horses and cattle, burn the farm houses, wreak their fiendish vengeance upon the old men, women and children left at home, and retreat before a sufficient number of men could be collected to stay their course.

News being brought from Missouri that such a raid was on the *tapis*, the Fourth immediately marched 200 of its force to the threatened district, which accordingly reached Clarinda, the county seat of Page County, only to find that the rebels had received news of their coming, and retreated across the border.

The Fourth Iowa left Council Bluffs the first week in August, 1861, and proceeded to St. Joseph, and from thence to Hannibal, and Benton Barracks, St. Louis, and soon after, were ordered to the seat of war, where they soon had all the business they could handle.

The first battle in which the regiment took part was that of Pea Ridge, it being engaged for two days, losing nearly half its strength. Company H lost three killed and fifteen wounded. At the battle of Chickasaw Bayou the Fourth Iowa carried the first line of rebel works under a terrible fire, but, not being properly supported by the other regiments, General Thayer gave the order to fall back, which was accordingly done, the regiment retreating, but with their faces to the foe, contributing largely to the Union loss of 800 on this disastrous occasion.

In the operations against Arkansas Post, the Fourth Iowa took a conspicuous part, and was preparing to move on the enemy's works when Fort Hindman surrendered; it was then ordered to take part in the siege of Vicksburg, where it occupied a conspicuous position, losing eighty men killed and wounded. The Fourth took part in the battle of Lookout Mountain, taking up a position on the extreme left of Hooker's command, and remained under arms all night. January 1, 1864, the regiment re-enlisted, spending their veteran furlough at home, receiving a splendid reception at Des Moines, and May 1 rejoined the army and participated in Sherman's Georgia campaign, operating in Williamson's Iowa brigade. In Sherman's march to the sea the Fourth Iowa did good service, and was engaged in the last battle of the war, fought at Bentonville, North Carolina.

This regiment numbered 940 strong when organized, and 300 more, at different times, enlisted in its ranks, and when mustered out, in September, 1865, only about 400 men answered the roll-call. These facts speak for themselves. Shot and shell, disease and privation had done their work on those who went forth in their manly strength in their country's hour of need, and amongst Iowa's gallant dead, whose bones repose in all parts of the Sunny South, none fought more bravely, or fell more gloriously than the farmers and backwoodsmen of the Iowa Fourth.

TWENTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

Under the call of President Lincoln dated July 1, 1862, for 500,000 volunteers, a large number of regiments were raised in Iowa. Company H, for the Twenty-ninth Iowa, was entirely made up of Union County boys. The company was organized August 9, 1862, with James J. Hafer as Captain, Lewis K. Myers as First Lieutenant and Amos C. Cooper as Second Lieutenant. There were 103 men, as follows:

N. V. Allen, Benjamin Applegate, John Appleton, Amos Ancy, C. B. Bennett, David Bach, B. R. Baker, W. J. Bishop, Ellis Ball, B. D. Billo, J. C. Beebe, J. B. Berry, M. P. Bomar, Edward Barton, T. E. Ballard, Z. M. Bartholomew, W. W. Barber, George P. Clough, Charles R. Cooper, John Carmicle, Marion Carey, B. B. Cochrane, John J. Cain, David Cooper, Amos C. Cooper, Amos J. M. Comer, J. H. Dael, John M. Douglas, E. C. Dath, M. A. Day, John H. Davis, B. F. Douglas, A. Drancker, Augustus Dufur, A. M. Eastman, George E. Eastman, John S.

Elliott, James A. Forgey, J. B. Frederick, M. France, Antonio Gauvain, William H. Guion, M. L. Garrison, Henry Glasgow, Jacob Gripp, I. B. Gripp, Hiram Glasgow, James J. Hafer, W. W. Hawkins, C. J. Hoover, J. M. Houser, J. B. Harman, Daniel Howell, Syrester Hurs, Hiram Hall, F. S. Husband, H. R. Hutchinson, G. O. Ickis, Frank Jackson, D. Katzenbarger, C. J. Kennison, J. V. Katzenbarger, Henry Keating, Alfred Kent, Nelson M. Kent, David Killion, Frederick Kock, George W. Ladd, E. C. Ludwig, J. M. Lock, E. A. Lampkin, J. S. Lafavre, W. B. Lewis, Walter R. B. Davis, James L. Lewis, John D. Lewis, Thomas J. Lamunion, Lewis K. Myers, Christian Murphy, Joel Miller, L. T. Madden, W. A. Moneypenny, Reuben Madden, Joshua Moores, Charles McVey, Jacob Marley, Will McDonald, James McCullock, Norman Nun, Henry Nun, W. H. W. Norris, Augustus Norris, John C. Olinger, William Painter, C. W. Painter, Jonathan Painter, Jonathan Paist, Gerhard Peters, John Rankin, J. W. Reasoner, J. W. Ricedorff, Josephus Roberts, James S. Roberts, Frank Ramsey, James S. Ross, Samuel M. Riggs, Joseph Syp, James Shay, Charles F. Scott, Jeremiah Shepherd, Fred Sommer, Ira Seeley, L. Shepherd, George W. Smith, A. Stithem; Lewis Schwantz, Reuben Showers, Charles B. Thompson, Josiah H. Thompson, Benjamin N. Thompson, W. H. Thompson, Daniel Thurlo, R. M. Thompson, James H. Wright, Clarence White, Edwarp K. Wilson, Henry Wick, L. J. Williamson, James M. Wickham, William M. Wickham, James H. Wolff, George Wick, Thomas Wright, Josiah W. Wycoff, William White, James Welsh, T. C. Wycoff and R. P. Witt.

In the History of Ringgold County, this volume, is given a full narrative of the operations of the Twenty-ninth Infantry. In this place we insert a sketch of Company H which appears in Colby's Atlas.

"The company rendezvoused at Camp Dodge, Council Bluffs, September 26, 1862, where the regiment was organized and equipped. Uniforms were received October 28, and arms November 21, and the companies were mustered into the United States service December 1, 1862, by Lieutenant Brown, U. S. A. The same day the men received $25 bounty and $2 premium; and, breaking camp December 5, rendezvoused at St. Joseph, Missouri, where they arrived December 11, and remained until December 19, when they took cars for St. Louis, arriving at Benton Barracks the next day; remaining there for a single night, they were ordered on provost duty, and were quartered in Washington avenue, opposite Lindell Hotel.

"December 25, Christmas day, the regiment embarked on the steamer, C. E. Hillman, for the South; on the 27th it landed at Columbus, Kentucky, where it went into camp. January 1, New Year's day, it was called into line of battle. With some it was a time of fear and trembling, this being their first experience. It proved to be a false alarm; the regiment had many such afterward. On the 7th of January it broke camp, and went on board a steamer under orders for Helena, Arkansas, at which place it disembarked, January 11, 1863, and shortly after embarked on the steamer Ruth, bound up White River to Duvall's Bluff. In this expedition the men suffered terribly from cold and exposure. January 27 it returned and went into camp, where it remained until the Yazoo Pass expedition, March 24, was organized, in which it took part, and also in the siege of Fort Pemberton. After this Company H was in many scouts, and did much heavy-fatigue duty until the battle of Helena, Arkansas, July 4, 1863, where it occupied an important position near the extreme right, where with the Fifth Kansas, the Twenty-ninth sustained the charges of Marmaduke's and Shelby's forces combined, and, although they were five to our one, it drove them back and occupied the field, but with the loss of some of our best men, killed and wounded.

"About this time General Steele organized an expedition against Little Rock, Arkansas, and the Twenty-ninth was assigned to duty in the same. The hardships and sufferings from heat, fatigue and thirst were terrible; but the column did not arrive until after the rebels' retreat, and encamped half a mile south of the city. Shortly after, it was ordered on scouting duty toward Arkadelphia, to cut off the retreat of Marmaduke from Pine Bluffs. It marched sixty miles in two days, but failed to intercept the enemy, and returned November 1 to its former camp, where it remained, doing provost duty, until March, 1864. It then broke camp and started on the Camden expedition to form a junction with the forces under General Banks, with the intention of investing Shreveport. On account of unlooked-for obstacles and bad generalship, Banks was driven back, after severe and continuous fighting, and our command under General Steele failed to connect with Banks' forces, upon the retreat of whom the rebels concentrated on our column, which was forced to retreat to Little Rock. This retreat was accompanied with much suffering and loss. Wagons and supplies were burned, caissons and cannon were mired, mud in places was belly-deep to the cavalry horses, and the entire force was disheartened and demoralized. The Twenty-ninth reached its old camp at Little Rock May 1, 1864, and for thirty days rested, doing only garrison duty, until June 1, when it was ordered to Lewisburg, an outpost fifty miles up the Arkansas River, where it remained until some time in July, when it was ordered back to Little Rock, and remained there doing garrison duty, scouting, etc., until February 9, 1865, at which time it was ordered to the Gulf. It broke camp at once and embarked by rail to Duvall's Bluff, where it shipped by steamer for New Orleans, Louisiana, and thence to Mobile, Alabama, which was at that time receiving particular attention from Admiral Farragut and General Granger. The regiment disembarked and participated in the investment and surrender of Fort Spanish, and in taking the city of Mobile. It was then ordered forty miles up the river, where it garrisoned an outpost—Mt. Vernon Arsenal—and remained until the 1st of June, when it returned to Mobile, and about that time received the glorious news of Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court-House. It then embarked for Texas, landed at Brazos Santiago about the middle of June, and camped at the mouth of the Rio Grande, where the men celebrated the anniversary of national independence.

"July 10 the regiment embarked for New Orleans, where it remained for a few days, while the muster rolls were being made out, preparatory to final discharge. The regiment then shipped by steamer to Davenport, Iowa, where Company H was with the rest mustered out of the service of the United States. The company arrived home July 31, 1865."

OTHER ENLISTMENTS.

Numerous enlistments were made in the county for other regiments. So far as can be learned, they were:

In the Fifteenth Iowa—William Day, Abel Dufur, George Homewood, Elijah Kent and Enoch Kent.

In the Eighteenth Iowa—T. H. Anderson, Aaron C. Day, Leonard Homewood, Josiah Lamb, John Lamb, Joseph Milnes, S. C. Messenger, John Reed, Charles Stock, C. M. Stock and Eli W. Stark.

In the Seventeenth Iowa—Fred Reed, H. W. Rose and James White.

In the Third Iowa—Willis Shelby.

In the Tenth Iowa—Thomas Lane.

In the Thirteenth Iowa—Simeon Robinson.

In the Nineteenth Iowa—Albert J. Allen.

In the Thirty-sixth Iowa—B. F. Martz.

In the Fourth Iowa Cavalry—G. W. Hart.

In the Eighth Iowa Cavalry—J. Brock.

In the Fifth Kansas Cavalry—W. R. Dufur and H. F. Lamb.

In the First Colorado Cavalry—A. F. Jekir.

In unknown regiments—W. J. Bishop, G. B. Bennett, Allen Carter, J. R. Day, Asa R. Daniel, Levi Dodson, H. H. Hays, E. R. Haley, Nelson Homewood, Frank Johnson, R. H. Jones, Martin Jessop, T. J. Lamb, W. R. Minert, N. C. Millman, Eli Russell, C. R. Rodgers and William C. Wilson.

The total number of volunteers was 275, or one in eight of the total population.

During the continuance of the war the business of the volunteers was attended to by their wives and children, the laborious avocations of the farm—planting, reaping and harvesting—being personally taken charge of by them. Thus, while the soldiers were at the front, did the noble women and children even lend a hand in crushing the greatest rebellion the world has ever known.

ROLL OF HONOR.

The following are those who, according to the Adjutant-General's reports, died or were killed while in the service:

W. J. Bishop, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, October 29, 1864.

Ellis Bail, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, May 20, 1864.

B. D. Bilbo, was killed at Yazoo Pass, Jenkins' Ferry, April 1, 1864.

David Cooper, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, October 25, 1863.

James R. Campbell, was killed in battle at Pea Ridge, Arkansas.

J. H. Dael, died at Keokuk, Iowa, August 27, 1863.

John M. Douglas, died at Memphis, Tennessee, April 15, 1863.

E. C. Deck, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, May 27, 1864.

M. A. Day, died at Helena, Arkansas, February 4, 1863.

John H. Davis, died at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, February 3, 1863.

John B. Freeny, died at Young's Point, Louisiana, February 3, 1863.

I. B. Gripp, died at Columbus, Kentucky, January 17, 1863.

Hiram Glasgo, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, January 1, 1864.

James J. Hafer, died at Helena, Arkansas, July 3, 1863.

F. S. Husband, was killed in battle at Helena, Arkansas, July 4, 1863.

H. R. Hutchinson, was killed at Fort Spanish, Alabama, March 31, 1865.

Frank Johnson, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, December 19, 1864.

Frank Jackson, died at Afton, October 18, 1863.

D. Katzenbarger, died at Helena, Arkansas April 16, 1863.

James L. Killion, died at Rolla, Missouri, December 15, 1861.

Reuben Madden, died in prison at Camden, Arkansas, in August, 1864.

Joshua Moores, died at Memphis, Tennessee, March 13, 1863.

Abraham Moore, was killed at Ringgold, Georgia, November 29, 1863.

James H. McCullock, died at Helena, Arkansas, March 8, 1863.

Augustus Norris, died October 20, 1863, at Afton, Iowa.

G. W. Parker, died at Memphis, Tennessee, September 28, 1863.

John Rankin, died at Helena, Arkansas, January 26, 1863.

J. W. Reasoner, died at Helena, Arkansas, February 14, 1863.

J. W. Ricedorff, died at Duvall's Bluff, September 1, 1863.

Samuel M. Riggs, died at St. Louis, Missouri, February 15, 1863.

William R. Reese, died May 17, 1864, at Bridgeport, Alabama.

John A. Smith, was killed at Lookout Mountain, November 10, 1863.

Charles F. Scott, died at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, February 7, 1863.

Lewis Schwantz, was killed in battle at Helena, Arkansas, July 4, 1864.

Reuben Showers, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, July 17, 1864.

Daniel Thurlo, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, December 19, 1864.

R. M. Thompson, died at Helena, Arkansas, June 6, 1863.

James H. Wright, died on his way home, in February, 1863.

James Welsh, was killed in battle, at Camden, Arkansas, April 15, 1864.

T. C. Wycoff, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, September 9, 1864.

R. P. Witt, died at Memphis, Tennessee, March 31, 1865.

RESIDENT EX-SOLDIERS.

Besides those now living here who enlisted from this county, there are many ex-soldiers who have located here since the war, and who were credited to other States and counties. No record has been made of these. There are probably 400 ex-soldiers now in Union County.

THE PRESS.

THE pen is mightier than the sword is a saying that is so trite that one is almost ashamed to quote it, yet it is worth urging upon the attention of unobservant people that the rapid progress of humanity in the nineteenth century is due, more than to any other one agency, to improved facilities of travel and communication. Railroads, mails and newspapers have become necessities to mankind, though many are now living who are older than the oldest railroad, and to whom a daily paper once seemed a useless extravagance. Even now changes are made yearly, and improvements discovered of such moment that the future value and function of the newspaper cannot yet be estimated.

Types were first used to reproduce only the Bible, and such books as were demanded in large numbers. Then came the periodical and pamphlet. The reviews and magazines increased in number and frequency of publication, and then the weekly newspaper was established, to be supplemented in time by the daily journal. At first only large cities could support papers, now it is a poor village that cannot have one or more, and a small county that has not its half dozen. One of the most important changes in the development of the country newspaper occurred from 1860 to 1870. Before the former date home news, locals and correspondence were not considered worth printing, but the reading matter was composed of reprints from the great journals, news from Europe, proceedings of Congress, and heavy editorials on national politics. Now these are supplied by the large city papers, which are brought to every village by those annihilators of distance, the railroads, and the home paper is largely filled with home news. The best county paper now is the one which gives the most space to town and county news, correspondence from every postoffice, and the proceedings of local organizations.

In Union County, to-day, are published eight newspapers, while more than as many more have been issued that are now defunct, by change of name or suspension. Generally speaking, the editors have been men of intelligence and enterprise, while to-day the members of the press are conceded to be far above the average in ability and scholarship.

First, we will mention the papers of

AITON.

Here there have been one or more papers published for over a quarter of a century.

Usually one had the whole field, until 1871, since when two have been published most of the time.

It is of interest to state here that the first advertising done by Afton merchants was in the *Iowa Homestead*, at Des Moines, in 1858 or '9. The county agricultural society had just been organized, and J. F. Bishop, its secretary, took to Des Moines advertising cards from about a dozen of Afton's merchants.

AFTON EAGLE

as the first paper published in Union County, it being established in the spring of 1860, by Morris & Ryan. It was Democratic in politics, supporting Stephen A. Douglas for President. In the fall of 1860 L. Raguet bought Ryan's interest, changed the name of the paper to the

AFTON REVEILLE,

eschewed politics, and devoted its columns to the upbuilding of the material interests of the county. In the course of the year Morris sold his interest to Raguet and enlisted in the Fourth Iowa Infantry. J. F. Bishop relates that Morris, who was a fine fellow, and well liked by his comrades, was made a Sergeant in the company. He was ambitious of promotion, and while in Southern Missouri tried to enlist a company for the Sixth Missouri Cavalry, having been promised a Lieutenancy. Failing in this, Morris became very despondent, and suddenly was missed. Only his cap was found, and many were the conjectures as to his probable fate. Most agreed that he was dead. Years after, Bishop, while editing the *News* at Afton, wrote a romance extending through a large series of numbers, entitled the "Lost Lieutenant." He made a pretty good story of it and increased his list of readers very materially; but afterward it transpired that Morris had deserted, and probably entered the ranks of the enemy. This ignoble character fill its that given him in the romance, and Bishop feels that the joke is on him.

Mr. Raguet was sole proprietor of the *Reveille* a short time, and then took as a partner Samuel M. Riggs, Jr.; the partnership lasted but a few months, when Riggs "stepped down and out." He afterward died in the army. A brief interval elapsed, when James W. Stevenson took an interest in the paper, but his health failing, he, after a few months, retired, and Raguet was again the only man at the helm. Stevenson was afterward chilled to death in Grand River. For a while, but just at what period is not now remembered, Robbins & Cornelius conducted the paper, but, after a brief experience, gave up the ghost. Raguet then took possession, but soon finding an opportunity to sell he disposed of the office to H. S. Erman, who conducted it in the interests of the Republican party. A year afterward the office once more fell into the hands of Raguet, who continued to manage it, with occasional intervals, until he sold out to W. R. Roberts, who changed the name to the

AFTON TRIBUNE.

Mr. Raguet is in the mercantile business at Afton. Cornelius is dead. Of the other old editors of the *Reveille*, Erman was last heard of as publishing a Democratic paper in Southeastern Iowa, and Robbins, a Baptist minister, by the way, was editing the *Baptist Beacon*, at Des Moines.

Mr. Roberts ran the *Tribune* as a radical Republican paper until 1876, when Ira Seeley became proprietor. He continued it as a Republican organ for one year, and then sold to W. H. Robb, who published it two years in the interest of the Greenback party, and then, in 1879, removed it to Creston and changed its name to the *Independent American*, which is still published there by him.

AFTON NEWS.

This paper was established in 1871 by Moorhead Brother, as an independent journal. Six months later they sold to Baxter

Brothers. Isaac Baxter sold his interest to George P. Wilson, and J. J. Baxter became a partner of Wilson, who, later, sold his share in the establishment to J. F. Bishop. Two years later Mr. Bishop became sole proprietor. Mr. Wilson is now Judge Wilson, of Creston, and John Baxter is part proprietor of the *Enterprise*.

Mr. Bishop published the paper for several years as a Republican paper. Becoming dissatisfied with Grant's administration he supported Tilden for the Presidency in 1876. Mr. Hayes' conciliatory policy toward the South, however, and the establishment by the United States Supreme Court of the principle of State control of railroads, reconciled Mr. Bishop, who returned to his Republican allegiance, and has since published a purely Republican paper. Not long after this he purchased the

NEW TRIBUNE,

which had been established in opposition to Mr. Robb's Greenback *Tribune*, and re-christened his paper the

TRIBUNE-NEWS,

its present name. In October, 1885, he sold to Chapman & Thrall, but they failed to make stipulated payments, and the proprietorship reverted to Mr. Bishop, in June, 1886. The *Tribune-News* is published on Wednesdays, at $1.50 per year, and is in size an eight-column folio.

ENTERPRISE.

The Afton *Enterprise* is an independent weekly, established January 8, 1880, by Baxter & Claussen, the present editors and proprietors. It was at first five columns in size, is now six, and is soon to be enlarged to seven columns. The subscription price is $1.00 per year.

AT CRESTON.

Something like a dozen different papers have been founded in the busy city of Creston, and six are now published. The first was known as the

CRESTON HEADLIGHT,

of which J. L. King was editor and proprietor. He was succeeded by J. Faye, who, after a few months' editorial experience concluded to seek other fields of labor, and accordingly sold out to J. W. Ragsdale, who changed the name to the

CRESTON TIMES.

After a short sojourn he disposed of his interest to Captain Dilley, who, in turn gave up the attempt in a few months and immigrated with the press and material to Adel, Dallas County, Iowa. The city was then without a paper until C. C. Bartruff, in the winter of 1872, established the

CRESTON JOURNAL,

a seven-column folio, Republican in politics; but the year following he decided that the field was not yet ripe for profitable journalism, and removed to Ringgold County, where he became publisher of the Mt. Ayr *Journal*.

In the autumn of the same year (1872) while the *Journal* was still running, W. H. Hoxie, of Corning, started the

UNION COUNTY INDEPENDENT,

with one Wells as editor and publisher. As its name indicates, it was independent in political matters. It received a fair patronage, but in July, 1873, Wells was killed by the cars at the Maple Street crossing, and A. H. Sluss assumed the role of editor-in-chief, which he filled with much acceptance until the winter of 1875, when he died. He was succeeded by S. N. Hamilton, a gentleman of ability and culture. Not finding the business remunerative, he resigned the position of editor after a few months and went East. Shortly after W. H. Hoxie, the owner of the press and material, sold the same to a stock company. They leased it to George P. Wilson, who started the

CRESTON DEMOCRAT.

Mr. Wilson (now Judge Wilson) was succeeded as editor in the summer of 1876 by S. R. Davis. The *Democrat* in time succumbed to adversity, as did another paper subsequently attempted, by the same name.

The oldest paper now published here, and the largest in the county, is the

CRESTON GAZETTE.

This was founded by J. B. Harsh and C. M. Schultz in the spring of 1873. After a few months Mr. Harsh retired, and C. M. Schultz was sole proprietor for a short time. He soon took as partner W. M. Oungst. The latter shortly sold out to J. H. Robison. After some other changes of ownership C. J. Colby organized a stock company, including himself, J. B. Harsh and others. In August, 1880, the issue of a daily form was begun. First it was an evening paper, and then an attempt was made to publish a morning paper, adopting the usual features of a city daily. Much money was sunk in this adventure, and while the result was a good paper, the returns did not justify the outlay, and the evening style was resumed. In the meanwhile the company had become financially embarrassed. Mr. Harsh advanced some needed money; this the company was unable to repay, and early in 1884 Mr. Harsh found himself owner of the daily and weekly *Gazette*, which he has so managed as to yield a profit without detracting from the quality of the paper or its contents. It is the oldest daily here, and is one of the chief papers in Southern Iowa, as well as one of the most influential Republican papers in the State. Twenty-two hands are employed on the *Gazette*—more than are supported by any other one institution in Creston, excepting, of course, the railroad company. H. W. Lewis is business manager, and H. A. Gregg, city editor. The weekly edition appears on Thursday, at $1.50 per year. The daily is furnished to subscribers at $6.50 per year, or 50 cents a month.

THE IMPLEMENT AMERICAN

is an eight page, fifty-six column weekly paper, published by W. H. Robb as editor and proprietor. This paper was established in February, 1877, at Afton by Mr. Robb. It was moved to Creston in the fall of 1879, and afterward enlarged from a four-page folio to its present form and size. It was originally the Afton *Tribune*, the office being the oldest newspaper office in the county. As indicative of the growth in popularity and value of the paper, it might be stated that Mr. Robb purchased the office originally for $1,500, and every addition made to its material and stock has come from the revenues derived from the business. In April, 1885, Mr. Robb sold a half interest to Hon. R. A. Dague, of Osceola, an old and experienced newspaper man, for $3,000. In the spring of 1886 he repurchased Mr. Dague's interest and is now the sole owner. The paper has grown from a small country sheet to be one of largest and most influential in the State, and has a large and growing circulation. It is National Greenback in politics, making a specialty of the labor problems, and is strongly "Anti-monopoly." Subscription price, $1.50, payable in advance.

THE CRESTON ADVERTISER

is a daily and weekly paper published by S. A. Brewster. Mr. Brewster, who had been in the employ of the *Gazette* and the *Democrat*, and had then started a job office on Maple Street with material purchased on credit in Omaha, issued the first number of the *Advertiser* July 1, 1879. It was designed purely as an advertising scheme, in view of the approaching "Fourth," and 2,000 copies were printed for free distribution. Some of the merchants who patronized Mr. Brewster's little venture suggested that he "keep it up," and he accordingly did so. It appeared every week as a four-column folio (afterward as a six-page paper) for free distribution during seven months, growing in favor. At the end

of this time he enlarged the paper to a six-column folio and put it upon a subscription basis, at $1.00 per year. A few months later it was enlarged to seven columns, its present size. The day of publication was Saturday until 1885, and is now Friday. It is entirely a local paper, no "plates" being used. The daily issue was begun December 5, 1881. In this form it is a five-column folio. It is a member of the Evening Telegram Company, and receives regularly the United Press reports. The subscription price of the daily is $4.00 per year, 35 cents a month, or 10 cents a week. In politics it is independent. In connection with the printing office is a blank-book manufactory. From fifteen to eighteen hands are employed in the establishment.

THE CRESTON COMMONWEALTH

was established October 19, 1882, by A. P. Leech, the name of the paper then being the *Commoner*. Mr. Leech conducted it just one year, when he sold the paper to W. A. Page, who associated with himself S. R. Davis, the firm name becoming Page & Davis. The next week after its purchase its name was changed to the *Commonwealth*, its present name. It is the only Democratic paper published in Union County. It advocates a revenue tariff, a legal-tender treasury currency instead of national-bank issues, and the control of common carriers by Congressional and State legislation. S. R. Davis, present postmaster of Creston, is editor. The paper appears on Friday, at $1.50 per year.

EVERY SUNDAY MORNING

is a society paper, started in May, 1883, by Hunsaker, Shultz & Co. It is a five-column quarto, printed on tinted paper, at $1.50 per year. For the first eighteen months the subscription price was $2.00. W. J. Hunsaker was editor until June, 1885, when he became sole proprietor, by purchase of the partnership interests, and sold the whole to J. A. Leens and Nixon Waterman. Mr. Waterman has the active management of the office and is editor.

THE CRESTON MONITOR

is the most recent of the defunct journals. It appeared until a few months ago as a prohibition weekly, and was the venture of J. W. Graves, now of Portia, Arkansas.

THE WORKINGMAN'S ADVOCATE,

the youngest member of the circle of journals published at Creston, is not a local newspaper, but the organ of the Knights of Labor, and circulates over many States. It was founded in March, 1885, by Typographical Union, No. 131. In the autumn of 1885 the paper came into the hands of O. W. Hicks. In February, 1886, the management of the paper was given to Steffey and Horrell. I. J. Horrell is the editor, and has filled that position from the start. It is the only exclusively labor paper in the State, and is published on Saturdays, at $1.00 per year.

PROFESSIONAL.

THE LEGAL PROFESSION

THE bar of Union County includes a number of men of marked ability and integrity, and they are justly looked upon as leaders in the business and social world. Most of them are given biographies in the preceding department of this volume. In this place it is but just to make some mention of different members of the legal profession who have belonged to Union County, and particularly of those who have either removed to other localities or closed their earthly accounts.

AFTON ATTORNEYS.

James A. Forgey was the first resident attorney of Union County. He located first in 1854 at West Union (a village, now nonexistent, in Jones Township), and later at Petersville, where he lived until 1876. He then removed with his family to Jewell County, Kansas, where he died, in 1883. He practiced law more or less up to the time of his removal, and, earlier in life, was to some extent a farmer. He was originally from Indiana, and was in politics a Democrat. His large family all reside in Kansas except a daughter, who is Mrs. Allison, of Afton.

Reuben Riggs, a Kentuckian by birth, settled first in Davis County, Iowa, and in 1855, came to Afton. Here he was a part of the time in partnership with James W. McDill, under the firm name of Riggs & McDill, in the practice of law. He was the last school-fund commissioner of Union County, holding the office during the year 1857. He was called "Judge" Riggs, but it is not remembered whether he held any judicial position before he came to this place, or whether the title was one merely of courtesy. Politically he was a Democrat. He was generous and open-handed, consequently poor; and stood very high in the estimation of the community. He removed with his family to Kansas, in 1861, and afterward, about 1869 or '70, while on an exploring expedition in what is now Barber County, Kansas, a northern blizzard came on suddenly, and Reuben Riggs was frozen to death.

James G. Day's early life was passed in Steubenville, Ohio. He studied law at Cincinnati and there received a certificate on which he was admitted to the bar in Iowa in 1857. He located at Afton and practiced law with N. W. Rowell, under the name of Day & Rowell, until 1860, when he removed to Sidney, Fremont County. He practiced law there one year, entered the army, was wounded at Shiloh and discharged in consequence thereof. He returned to Fremont County, and the same autumn was chosen judge of a district em-

bracing nine counties. Union was at the eastern end of his district. Soon after the expiration of his term as district judge he was appointed a supreme judge of Iowa. He was on the Supreme Bench until 1883, since when he has been a member of the law firm of Phillips & Day, at Des Moines. While at Afton he was a young man, but was even then recognized as of superior ability.

James W. McDill came to Afton in the spring of 1857, and has practiced law in Union County when not holding some office of trust, which, indeed, has been most of the time. He is the most conspicuous citizen of Union County, past or present, having been a member of the United States Senate. His sketch appears elsewhere in this work.

N. W. Rowell came to Afton in July, 1858, and has practiced law continuously for twenty-eight years.

E. F.. Sullivan came but a year or two later, and has been in continuous practice since.

George S. Smith came here in 1866 and remained two years, then removing to Plattsmouth, Nebraska. He remained there till 1884, and since that date has resided and practiced at Omaha.

M. S. Robinson came from Illinois to this place in 1869, and two years later fixed his residence in Chicago, where he is now in practice.

W. S. Strawn passed his boyhood at Mt. Pleasant, was admitted to the bar there, came to Afton in 1869, and two years later removed to Red Oak, where he is now in the regular practice.

F. J. Nye came here in 1872, and one year later removed to Ackley, Iowa.

N. R. Cook came here in 1871, taught school most of the time, but occasionally had a case in court, until 1883, when he removed to Atchison, Kansas.

Others have been here a short time and removed without contributing much to the history of Union County.

Besides those of the above who are yet in practice, the following reside at Afton: J. M. Milligan, A. W. Enoch, D. Davenport, S. W. McElderry and P. C. Winters.

CRESTON ATTORNEYS.

The first attorney to locate at Creston was A. H. Sluss, who came in 1869, and remained till 1875, the last year of the time as editor of the *Union County Independent*. He died in the latter year mentioned.

A. L. Gutheridge came in 1871, practiced four or five years, and is now farming.

J. F. McCormick came in 1871, and has been in practice ever since.

J. C. Naylor came here from Adair County, remained a short time, and then removed to the northern part of the State.

George P. Wilson came here from Afton, and is the oldest attorney in continuous practice at Creston. He is now judge of Superior Court.

D. H. Ettien was in practice from 1872 to 1884, a portion of the time as a partner of George P. Wilson. He is now connected with the Lombard Investment Company, and still belongs to the Union County Bar.

L. Dyo Chambers was here for some time, and acquired the reputation of being an excellent pleader. He is now connected with a Baptist publishing house.

C. D. H. Parker died here after about a year's residence.

W. E. Wilkinson was in partnership with the two preceding, under the firm name of Chambers, Parker & Wilkinson, and is now editor of the *Grand Army Advocate*, published at Des Moines.

J. B. Harsh was admitted to the bar soon after coming to Creston, in which place he located with an intention to devote himself to the law, but he has been chiefly interested in real estate, banking and journalism.

T. J. Stafford resided and practiced here from 1875 to 1885.

A. M. Childs practiced here about the same period, and is now at Des Moines.

John A. Patterson came here from Monmouth, Illinois, and has found it a good place to stay.

John Gibson practiced two or three years, and then retired from the law. He is still a resident of Creston.

John W. Gish practiced a short time, and and is now in the employ of the Lombard Investment Company. The three just named were in partnership under the firm name of Patterson, Gibson & Gish.

A. D. McCandless was here from 1874 to 1880, holding the office of justice of the peace a portion of the time. He is now at Beatrice, Nebraska.

D. W. Higbee has been a resident for some ten years, and has practiced since 1878.

J. M. Locke was admitted in 1877, and has been in practice ever since. Has lived in the county "always," being one of the first white children born in Union County.

The firm of McDill & Sullivans, of Afton, have had an office at Creston since 1884.

R. H. Hanna, of Columbus Junction, Iowa, has been here three years.

John M. Hays has been here an equal period of time, and has an excellent practice.

James G. Bull, from Columbus, Ohio, has been a resident some four years.

M. B. Bailey, a partner of George P. Wilson from 1877 to 1880, is now in the northern part of this State.

T. S. Maxwell came here from Adams County in 1884.

W. A. Spurrier, formerly partner of T. S. Maxwell, came at the same time, from the same locality.

C. J. Laybourne came in 1882, held the office of justice of the peace, and removed to Minneapolis in 1884.

L. J. Goodwin came at the same time with Mr. Laybourne, was his partner for a time, and is now traveling for a Chicago cigar factory.

S. S. Denning came in 1877, and when he left, in 1883, he was ahead of his clients to the amount of $850.

Judson L. Wicks came here from Iowa City in 1883.

C. R. Leonard came at the same time, from the same place, and was for a time a partner of Wicks. He is now with T. S. Maxwell.

W. J. Locke was admitted in 1883.

J. H. Copenhuffer came in 1876, and is yet here.

N. B. Robertson has been admitted to the bar this current year—1885.

PRESENT BAR.

The roll of present practitioners belonging to the Union County bar includes J. P. Flick, McDill & Sullivan, James G. Bull, J. A. Patterson, D. A. Porter, D. D. Gregory, F. A. Shute, J. F. McCormick, J. M. Hays, J. M. Milligan, Stuart Bros., D. Davenport, Higbee & Hanna, A. W. Enoch, J. B. Harsh, D. H. Ettien, J. H. Copenhuffer, W. A. Spurrier, N. W. Rowell, Wickham & Wickham, Maxwell & Leonard, J. L. Wicks, J. M. Locke, W. J. Locke, P. C. Winters and B. N. Robertson.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

The life of a medical practitioner in a newly-settled country is generally one of toil and hardship. Compensation is usually meager, and however extensive may be the physician's practice, much of it must be rendered gratuitously on account of the poverty of his patients. A strong constitution and abundant patience are requisite to success, and success frequently means on the part of the physician merely the consciousness that he has performed his duty well. Many of those who first ministered to the sick in Union County were not graduates of any medical institution, and would not today be recognized as competent physicians; but they exercised what knowledge they had in the interests of suffering humanity, and deserve credit for what they did.

As the county grew in population, the number of physicians increased, and in a few years all the settlers had reliable medical advisers within a short distance from their homes.

Fever and ague were the chief complaints in most of the new States, but Union County has been singularly exempt from these, and few portions of the country can boast of a healthier climate and population than Union County. No great epidemics have ever visited the people. There is nothing in the condition of air or climate to cause disease; and the present generation is free from inherited taints, and blest with good habits and vigorous health.

The physicians of Union County have generally been men of more than average ability in their profession. Not a few have been men of culture and extensive scholarship. The present practitioners are almost without exception reckoned among the most honorable citizens, and in their professional character are possessed of judgment, faithfulness, knowledge and skill such as entitled them to rank among the most useful members of society.

AFTON PHYSICIANS.

James Lewis, the first physician here, as the first in the county, arrived July 12, 1855, and resided here until his death, during the "seventies." He practiced here over twenty years. During the last year of his life he was quite feeble, and resided with his children. He has several daughters at Afton and in the vicinity, and one or two in Montgomery County. One son, Robert, is in Chicago. The others are dead. Dr. Lewis was a zealous Republican, and a strong Union man. His sons were mostly in the service of their country during the war.

J. F. Roberts, the second physician at Afton, was possessed of unusual ability, and was a skillful surgeon—the only one, in his day, in the county. He entered the drug business as a partner of Dr. Beebe, and in 1866 or '67 removed to Brookfield, Missouri. Thence he removed to Southern Illinois, where he was living when last heard from, and still dealing in drugs.

L. S. Groves came in 1862, from Muskingum County, Ohio, and has practiced here ever since, with the exception of one year in the service of the United States, as Surgeon of the Twenty-eighth Iowa.

J. T. Beebe, physician and druggist, came here in 1864, and has resided at Afton since, except one year at Brookfield, Missouri.

Thomas Hays located at Afton in the autumn of 1869, and practiced until his death, in 1877.

J. A. Lauder, his son-in-law, has now been in practice at Afton nine years. W. D. Christy completes the list of those now residing and practicing at the county seat.

CRESTON PHYSICIANS.

The first physician to make Creston his home was named Stetson, and was a graduate of Rush Medical College. He came here from Bureau County, Illinois, and finding little to do here, he became discouraged, although a talented young man, and returned to his former location, where he is still in practice.

One Graves, an eclectic, came here and purchased a drug store. He ran this and practiced a little for some time, and then sold out. He was next known as a Methodist preacher, and is now in Arkansas.

A physician named Lewis, a graduate of a medical college at Albany, New York, practiced at Creston two years, and then removed to Atchison, Kansas, where he subsequently died.

Next came Dr. Powers. He was not a graduate, but had attended a course of lectures in New York. After remaining here a year or more, he returned to the Empire State, where he is now in practice.

A doctor by the name of Black came here

from Washington, Iowa, where he had been in the grocery business. He remained at Creston two years, and then removed to Kansas.

J. B. Wilson located here in 1872, coming from six miles further south, and has practiced continually since. He is the oldest practitioner of Creston.

Dr. St. John, here 1874-'75, removed to Ringgold County.

H. A. Given, a graduate of Rush, came to Creston from Abingdon, Illinois. He was a partner of Dr. Wilson for two years, and then practiced alone until 1881, when he removed to Nebraska. He is now practicing in that State. He made a good reputation while here.

W. H. Christie came next, and is the second oldest physician in Creston.

In subsequent years came H. I. Nance, B. N. Torrey, G. W. Fellows, J. D. Reynolds, J. A. Rawls, Edwin Schifferle and Dr. White, all of whom are here now.

H. Bonner came about 1880, and after a year or two returned to Ohio.

The first Homeopathic physician here was named Andrews. He is now at Wichita, Kansas. Next came Dr. Kirkpatrick, who has also left. Dr. A. J. Myers now represents the school here.

CROMWELL PHYSICIANS.

The first physician at Cromwell was J. B. Wilson, now of Creston. He came in 1869, and remained two years.

R. H. Johnson came here from Decatur County in 1869, and has been in practice ever since. He is now postmaster of Cromwell.

E. Henderson came in 1879, from Jefferson County, and has remained ever since.

A. S. Bailey has practiced medicine four or five years, but has kept a drug store much longer.

SOCIETY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

There has been no county medical society, but the Society of Physicians and Surgeons of Southwestern Iowa was organized at Creston, June 1, 1876, with members from Union, Clarke, Ringgold and Adair counties. About thirty-five physicians joined this organization, among those from Union County being J. W. Lauder and L. S. Groves, of Afton, and B. N. Torrey, J. B. Wilson, W. H. Christie, J. D. Reynolds, H. I. Nance, H. Bonner, J. A. Rawls and Edwin Schifferle, of Creston. Meetings were held semi-annually until 1884, for discussion and reading of papers, information of members, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EDUCATIONAL.

THERE is no subject connected with our progress and civilization, in which our people have taken a deeper interest than in that of education. While our public schools, which constitute the basis of our progress and intelligence, have especially engaged the attention of our most enterprising citizens and legislators, they have also liberally encouraged the higher institutions of learning, as is shown by our numerous seminaries, colleges and universities. Iowa has education for her cornerstone, upon which she has reared an enduring superstructure. Education is the secret of the great prosperity of our State, and the safeguard of our institutions. There is no excuse whatever for a person being uneducated in Iowa, for her counties are dotted over with numerous and excellent school-houses, while the school buildings in the cities are models of elegance and convenience; and these public schools are free to all, rich and poor, irrespective of race, color or religion. There has been manifested a constant and very general determination to bring the schools of the State to the highest degree of excellence consonant with sound policy and the development of its material resources.

The findings of the last census in educational matters, although hardly a revelation to our people, are yet not a little gratifying, as they enable people elsewhere to realize something of the work being done in Iowa in educational matters. In respect to the number of school-houses, Iowa is seen to be fifth, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois only having more. The same States have each more teachers than Iowa. Six States only surpass Iowa in respect of sittings in schools, of value of school property, of outlay for school purposes, and of number of pupils attending school. In respect of the extent of illiteracy, no less than twenty-five States have more persons over ten years of age unable to read and write.

The first schools taught in Union County were private or subscription schools. Their accommodations, as may be readily supposed, were not good. Sometimes they were taught in small log houses erected for the purpose. Stoves and such heating apparatus as are in use now were unknown. A mud and stick chimney in one end of the building, with earthen hearth, with a fire-place wide enough and deep enough to take in a four-foot back log, and smaller wood to match, served for

warming purposes in winter and a kind of conservatory in summer. For windows, part of a log was cut out in either side, and maybe a few panes of 8 x 10 glass set in; or, just as likely as not, the aperture would be covered over with greased paper. Writing benches were made of white planks, or, maybe, puncheons resting on pins or arms driven into two inch auger holes bored into the logs beneath the windows. Seats were made out of thick planks or puncheons; flooring was made of the same kind of stuff. Everything was rude and plain, but many of America's greatest men have gone out from just such school-houses to grapple with the world and make a name for themselves, and names that come to be an honor to their country. In other cases, private rooms and parts of private houses were utilized as school-houses, but the furniture was just as plain.

But all these things are changed now. A log school-house in Iowa is a rarity. Their places are filled with handsome frame or brick structures. The rude furniture has also given way, and the old school books, the "Popular Reader," the "English Reader" (the finest literary compilation ever known in American schools), and "Webster's Elementary Spelling Book," are superseded by others of greater pretensions. The old spelling classes and spelling matches are out of fashion. Discipline is now made one of the chief aims. Though modifications are yet to be made, the present schools are a credit to the community.

Of the common schools of the county no further history is necessary than to imagine a steady growth from zero, in 1850, to the excellent schools in 1886. The last public report of the superintendent of public instruction contains the following facts with reference to school matters in Union County: District townships, 16; independent districts, 21; sub-districts, 109; ungraded schools, 125; rooms in graded schools, 40; average duration, months, 7.2; male teachers employed, 57; average compensation, $29.27; females employed, 207; average compensation, $25.90; males of school age, 2,889; females of school age, 2,628; enrollment in public schools, 3,450; average attendance, 3,099; average cost of tuition per month, per pupil, $2.23; frame school-houses, 114; brick school-houses, 5; value of all, $129,175; value of apparatus, $3,923; volumes in libraries, 450; receipts of school-house funds, $28,102.24; paid for school-houses and sites, $15,781.80; paid for library and apparatus, $2,784.75; paid on bonds and interest, $3,228.80; paid for other purposes, $4,429.49; receipts of contingent funds, $21,683.07; paid for rent and repairs $3,994.21; paid for fuel, $3,290.04; paid secretaries and treasurers, $1,249.46; paid for records, dictionaries and apparatus, $2,241.05; paid for insurance and janitors, $2,183.70; paid for supplies, $1,188.48; paid for other purposes, $2,062.08; receipts of teachers' funds, $52,247.85; paid teachers, $37,686.10; paid for other purposes, $529.27; schools visited, 140; visits made during the year, 160; educational meetings held, 4.

AGRICULTURAL.

The best prosperity a county can have is agricultural. Manufactures and mineral resources are desirable, but where they are the main dependence there will invariably be a poor, ignorant, unenterprising class of citizens controlled by a few capitalists. Here in Union County property is quite evenly distributed, all are comfortably situated, and all enjoy educational and social advantages. Union is destined to remain an agricultural county, and it is best so. As a farming region it ranks among the best in the State. Possessing the advantages of a good climate, a soil of inexhaustible fertility, and excellent railroad facilities, the county has already attained such a degree of agricultural development as is seldom found in a country comparatively new. Its wealth and prosperity are steadily and rapidly increasing. When

we consider that but one generation ago the red men were the owners of these prairies which now support one of the most flourishing communities in the United States, we may well be astonished at the wonderful results which time and an intelligent industry have wrought. In many sections of our country, lands which have been occupied by white inhabitants twice and thrice as long exhibit not one-half of the improvements and substantial evidences of real prosperity that Union County can show. Nature did much for this region, and a thrifty and progressive people have admirably co-operated with her efforts. Farms, buildings and improvements of every kind are of unusual excellence in Union County. Numerous towns and villages scattered over the county furnish abundant and convenient trading points and home markets, while unexcelled educational and religious privileges combine to render the lot of the Union County farmer a most fortunate one.

The first settlers generally made their homes in the more protected localities, adjacent to a grove or stream, and many of them still continue to reside on the spot where they first located. More recently, the prairie lands have been in demand, and, now command higher prices than the broken land near the rivers.

The soil is principally a black, sandy loam, from two to six feet deep, and, for farming purposes, inexhaustible. Being devoid of rocks, stones or stumps, it is easy of cultivation, and produces large crops of grain and grass. Unlike the clayey lands in the eastern portion of the State, the land in Union County can be worked readily, after even severe rain storms, the sandy nature of the soil, coupled with the natural drainage, rendering this possible without inconvenience or detriment to the growing crops. Another important feature is its capability to resist severe drouths, which will sometimes occur in any country, a failure of crops from this cause being comparatively unknown.

Among the first settlers it was generally supposed that any attempts at fruit-growing would at best meet with but indifferent success, and they were accordingly rather slow to improve in that direction. A few of the more enterprising, however, planted orchards, which are to-day in full bearing, a credit alike to their owners and to the county. So soon as it became evident that fruit could be successfully grown, trees were very generally planted out, and are now just commencing to bear fruit, thus yielding quick and profitable returns.

As an agricultural and stock-growing county, Union, though new and but partially developed, will compare favorably with any other in the State. her high, rolling prairies and alluvial bottom lands forming a basis of wealth and prosperity which cannot be overestimated; also, her numerous water courses, constituting a perfect natural system of drainage, and at the same time furnishing an inexhaustible supply of water for stock and mechanical purposes, are a source of profit as well as convenience to the neighboring settlers.

Of the productions of the county we may say that corn is the staple, the reliable crop of all our farmers; wheat, oats, barley and rye are also extensively cultivated—ordinarily with profitable results. Flax has of late years met with much favor, and yields quick and satisfactory returns. The soil is peculiarly adapted to the raising of root crops, which often astonish the most experienced by their wonderful growth.

Native and English grasses flourish well, making a luxuriant growth, and are as rich and nutritious as can be found in any part of the country. Favorable weather usually enables the husbandman to gather in this crop in the very best condition, and stock is easily kept upon it throughout the entire winter without the use of a particle of grain.

Considerable attention has been paid, of late years, to the planting of artificial groves

of maple, box elder and cottonwood, and a large majority of the farm houses in the county are surrounded by from one to twenty acres of grove, which, in an incredibly-short time, become both attractive and profitable.

Coal, although extensively prospected for both by the county authorities and also by private individuals, has never been found within our limits, and although many persons are sanguine of ultimate success, the present prospect does not seem to be particularly flattering for realizing their much-wished-for desideratum.

Stock-raising must always be one of the most profitable branches of industry, the natural adaptation and advantages of this section, both for soil and climate, making it particularly remunerative; many fine herds of thorough-bred cattle are now feeding in the county, and large investments are yearly being made in the same direction.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS FOR 1884.

The following are the most interesting items found in the State census of 1885, relating to farms and farm products in Union County for 1884:

Average number of acres in farm, 139; acres of improved land, 257,234; acres in cultivation, 156,171; acres unimproved land, 39,042; acres in pasture, 70,686; rods of hedge, 313,943; rods of barbed-wire fence, 532,942; rods of other fence, 454,211; farms managed by owner, 1,610; by manager, 19; by tenant for money rent, 61; by tenant for crop rent, 300; acres of corn, 48,841; bushels harvested, 1,671,496; acres of wheat, 2,201; bushels harvested, 20,607; acres of oats, 22,612; bushels harvested, 457,544; tons of straw, 8,701; acres of rye, 1,530; bushels harvested, 12,386; tons of straw, 770; acres of buckwheat, 329; bushels harvested, 2,666; acres of broom corn, 18; tons of product, 11; acres of sorghum, 212; gallons of syrup gathered, 16,261; pounds of sorghum sugar made, 1,250; acres in planted timber, 3,055; acres in natural timber, 6,061; cords of wood cut in 1884, 1,617; bearing apple trees, 49,740; bushels gathered, 26,161; other bearing fruit trees, 7,036; bushels of fruit gathered, 1,906; trees not in bearing, 54,957; acres of vineyard, 31; pounds of grapes gathered, 15,115; gallons of wine made, 172; vines not in vineyard, 17,788; pounds of grapes gathered, 41,435; gallons of wine made, 34; stands of bees, 1,581; pounds of honey gathered, 30,485; pounds of wax gathered, 843; acres of clover, 370; tons of hay, 595; bushels of seed, 74; acres of Hungarian grass, 22; tons of hay, 31; bushels of seed, 45; acres of millet, 574; tons of hay, 550; bushels of seed, 1,333; acres of timothy, 31,916; tons of hay, 34,996; bushels of seed, 6,820; tons of hay from wild grass, 7,653; acres of flax, 943; bushels of seed, 5,604; tons of straw, 271; acres of potatoes, 970; bushels raised, 89,052; acres of onions, 31; bushels raised, 2,516; bushels of beets raised, 411; bushels of turnips raised, 1,862; bushels of peas and beans raised, 685; thorough-bred cattle, 241; graded cattle, 1,617; work oxen, 4; milch cows, 7,054; all other cattle, 17,144; slaughtered or sold for slaughter, 3,931; horses of all kinds, 6,748; sold for export, 285; mules and asses, 380; sold for export, 38; Poland-China hogs, 11,777; Berkshire hogs, 510; Chester White hogs, 174; Duroc-Jersey hogs, 430; Essex hogs, 20; other improved breeds, 1,700; total hogs, 26,973; slaughtered or sold for slaughter, 19,195; total sheep, 1,741; slaughtered or sold for slaughter, 313; killed by dogs, 56; fleeces, 692; pounds of wool, 4,060; common chickens, 72,040; improved breeds, 8,655; other domestic fowls, 11,030; dozens of eggs, 156,750; value of farm products, $548,252; value of market-garden produce, $4,332; value of forest products, $4,061; value of orchard products, $14,702; value of vine products, $6,388; value of small fruit, $1,616; value of hive products, $3,294; value of dairy products, $[illegible],950; live stock sold, $422,675; poultry and eggs, $103,315; average value of

farms, $3,200; average farm wages, by year, $180; during haying, by month, $26; during harvest, by month, $26.

UNION COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This was organized January 30, 1858, with seventeen members, and John D. Wright as president; J. F. Bishop as secretary, and Cyrus Slutts as treasurer. Among the directors were A. C. Cooper, of Pleasant Township; J. S. Lorimer, of New Hope; William Groesbeck, of New Hope; S. M. Lee, of Sand Creek; Dr. J. A. Day, of Highland, and N. W. Rowell, of Afton. Three fairs were held in the village of Afton, the public square being used for this purpose. The court house was headquarters. The receipts of the first fair were $61, and the amount paid in premiums $44. There were then sixty-five members. Thomas Robinson was the next president, the other officers being re-elected. At the second fair $67 was awarded in premiums. The war coming on attention was distracted from the quiet enterprises of peace, and the society was not re-organized until 1869. In the revival Dr. J. T. Beebe and about a dozen others were most active. For ten years twenty-five acres were leased from William Schwantz, one mile south of Afton. Then funds were raised by the sale of life-membership certificates, at $25 each, and thirty-two acres purchased, a mile southeast of Afton, on which fairs are now held. The fair of 1886 is the eighteenth, from the re-organization. The society has a light debt, and is on the whole in a prosperous condition. Premiums are usually paid in full. A good track is on the grounds and some excellent racing is seen each year. At this writing Dr. J. T. Beebe, is president; R. J. Biggs, vice-president; D. Davenport, secretary; Theodore F. Shunk, treasurer.

CRESTON FAIRS.

From 1882 to 1885, inclusive, fairs were held also at Creston, on forty acres of land owned by W. A. Page, a mile north of town. These were entirely under the direction of Mr. Page, whose management was a success. Sufficient interest not being taken to warrant its continuance, however, no fair was held in 1886.

RAILROADS.

But one railroad corporation, the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, is as yet represented in this county. With that company the history of the development of the county is intimately connected. As soon as the line was opened from Chicago to Burlington the company announced that it designed building a road from the Mississippi to the Missouri, on some available route.

In May, 1855, a grant of public land was made "to the first company who should build a railroad from Burlington to the mouth of the Platte River;" the grant being each alternate section numbered odd within nine miles of each side of said road, with the privilege, if sufficient public lands could not be found within the prescribed limit, to extend the selection to fifteen miles on either side.

As soon as this act became a law, Eastern speculators, anticipating rich returns, entered the Government lands along the proposed line by wholesale. Much of this county was located with Mexican land warrants, while other extensive tracts were taken by pre-emption or entry.

Another large tract here was known as the School and University land, selected under the 500,000 acre grant made in 1841. This land had been selected by a Mr. Whitaker, of Des Moines County, who, accepting his appointment from the State authorities, proceeded to make what proved to be valuable selections.

He traveled with an ox team, camping out for weeks at a time, and examined every tract carefully before selection. These lands were mostly sold to the first settlers at Government price, $1.25 per acre (one-fourth cash, balance

in ten years at 8 per cent.), by Isaac P. Lamb, first school fund commissioner.

In the summer and fall of 1855 the first regular survey for a railroad was made by Chief Engineer H. Thielson, of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company (a creation of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company), assisted by Engineer Hebard.

Various lines were run through the county, and it was entirely uncertain where the new railroad would be built; but its completion was confidently anticipated by the inhabitants within a few months at furthest; the company completed their survey, and adopted the necessary measures to secure the land grant from the Government. Work was begun on the eastern end of the road, but it was not until about the year 1867 that anything definite was done toward locating the road in this county. In that year the present line was selected. Two surveys had been made through Union County. One was that finally utilized. The other, and the more economical route, was to enter the county near its southeast corner, run west to the valley of the Twelve-Mile Creek, half-way across the county, and then turn toward the divide in Highland Township. Representative citizens of Afton, who proceeded to Burlington in the interests of the county seat, were informed that the northern route would cost $100,000 more than the southern. Maps and profiles were shown them in support of this statement. The company, however, would adopt the northern route if Afton and its friends would subscribe for $20,000 of stock and give the right of way across the county, and also depot grounds at Afton. This proposition was certainly a fair one.

In 1868 a concerted effort was made to comply with the terms offered. At most but $14,500 of stock was taken. This with the right of way made about $20,000 contributed by Union County, and the railroad company accepted this, although less than the amount stipulated.

Afton is almost exactly half-way between Ottumwa and Council Bluffs, and the company desired to make a division terminus here or near here. It then seemed impossible to give this honor to Afton, on account of its elevated situation and the lack of water. Afton is now a good watering station, but the facilities now at hand had not then been applied. One survey was made two miles east of Afton, on Star branch, but this was deemed unsuitable. Afterward a site was selected two and a half miles west of the county seat, on Twelve-Mile Creek. This latter site, the Longstreth farm, possessed every advantage the company could desire. Accordingly its representative here was authorized to purchase the Longstreth farm of 800 acres, for $12,000, $1,000 being put up as a forfeit.

As soon as it leaked out that a division station was to be made thus threateningly near to Afton, the citizens sent a most earnest petition to the railroad company to spare the county seat, and save it from annihilation. The company heeded this prayer, and its agent then looked up the thousand-acre tract of wild land which had been entered in 1854, by a man not afterward heard from, either as a tax-payer or otherwise. Mr. Sigler, of Osceola, was dispatched to Pennsylvania, where he found the owner and purchased the land at $1 an acre. This is the tract where Cromwell is located. Cromwell was laid out to be a division station, and in 1869, after Afton had been the terminus of the road nearly a year, the tracks were extended westward. A large hotel and a score of buildings were put up at Cromwell.

A new election of officers of the railroad company, however, brought a new coterie of land speculators into power, who were not interested in Cromwell. A new tract of land was purchased, on which Creston was built. The vexed question was now settled, to the disappointment of some, and the relief of others. Afton cannot well complain, and had she foreseen the future dimensions of

Creston, she would have seen it to her manifest interest to have not opposed the selection of the Longstreth farm. The little town of Afton could have been moved up to it, if desirable, in one season's time. The county at that time owned no creditable buildings at Afton.

The stock taken in this county was generally parted with at 25 cents on the dollar or some such low rate. It is now a good way above par.

The principal enterprise upon which the business of Creston at present mostly depends is the extensive interests of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy. This is a division station, and probably always will be. Here the company has a mammoth sixty-stall round house, one of the largest on the continent, equipped with all modern conveniences. A large $100,000 machine shop was added to its interests in 1884, which is equipped with all modern improved machinery, and is now in use. Four hundred men are employed in the machine shop and round-house, on an average the year round. A fine $25,000 store-house is also used, and extensive car repair shops are kept constantly running, overhauling cars. In the machine shops engines are overhauled and rebuilt. One hundred and twenty-five engines are in use on the road running in and out of Creston, and about 135 engineers and 135 firemen employed on the road make their headquarters here. Four engines are employed in the extensive yards here, switching night and day. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy has a branch southwest to St. Joseph and Kansas City, Missouri, and one north to Greenfield in Adair, and west to Cumberland, in Cass County, which makes Creston an extensive freight-distributing point, and makes a large amount of transfer business for the railroad at this point. No trains pass through Creston without engines, cabooses and crews being changed. Extensive stock yards are located here, and most all stock in transit over the "Q." stops over here to feed. About 300 men are employed in the offices, freight-house, yards and on the road with headquarters here, where most of them have residences, in addition to those employed in the shops and round-house, and on an average $60,000 is paid out by the company here each month, which is distributed in the city.

The main offices of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy are in Chicago. The present officers of the road are: C. E. Perkins, President, Burlington; T. J. Potter, Vice-President, Chicago; H. B. Stone, General Manager, Chicago; J. D. Besler, General Superintendent, Galesburg, Illinois; W. F. Merrill, Superintendent Iowa Lines, Burlington.

The Creston & Northern Railroad Company was organized in 1875, under the auspices of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Company. A road was built from Creston to Fontanelle, Adair County, and recently extended to Cumberland, Cass County. The line is now known as the Creston and Cumberland branch of the "Q." It crosses portions of Highland, Lincoln and Spaulding townships in Union County, and the latter two gave financial aid to the construction.

The Creston branch was built in 1873, Douglas and Platte townships aiding. It runs to Hopkins, Missouri, and there connects with an extension built from Kansas City and St. Joseph to meet it.

The main line is assessed at $13,500 per mile; Creston branch at $3,500; and the Creston & Northern at $2,000.

The stations in Union County are six in number. Thayer is 379 miles from Chicago, 172 from Burlington, eight from Afton, seventeen from Creston and 119 from Council Bluffs. Afton is 387 miles from Chicago, 180 from Burlington, between nine and ten from Creston, and 111 from Council Bluffs. Creston is 396 miles from Chicago, 102 from Council Bluffs, forty-four from Hopkins and fifty-one from Cumberland. Cromwell is 403

miles from Chicago, 196 from Burlington sixteen from Afton, seven from Creston and ninety-five from Council Bluffs. Kent, on the Creston branch, is six miles from Creston, and Spaulding, on the Creston & Northern, is eight miles from Creston.

INCIDENTS.

The following incidents were taken from Colby's "Atlas:"

For several years after settlement began in Union County, the only houses built were composed of logs; a good hewed log house being a first-class residence. To raise these buildings the neighbors would gather for eight or ten miles round and help each other. On one occasion a German, who lived not far from Afton, proposing to build a house, was informed by an imaginative gentleman who was also a strong admirer of distilled corn juice, "that nobody would come to the raising without whisky was furnished." Acting on this suggestion the honest Teuton procured a keg of the best he could find, and bid his neighbors to the "raising bee."

They came from far and near, but the happiest one of them all was the wag whose advice had secured the liquor, which was handed around in a large water bucket, free to all.

Working on one of the corners, every few minutes he would call out, "more whisky on the c-o-r-n-e-r-s." The house was raised, the crowd was jubilant, and when they left at night the keg was empty, a good share of its contents having been "got outside of" by our friend who stood "on the corner."

In the year 1853 or 1854 several persons living near Petersville, who did not get along very harmoniously with Judge Norman Nun, concocted a plan to get him out of the neighborhood.

Nun, at the time, was living on a piece of land as a squatter, and loaning his money at good rates of interest. In pursuance of this plan, William M. Lock visited Judge Nun and borrowed a sum of money which he immediately used in purchasing the land where Nun lived. No sooner was this done than war was declared. Lock and Stark were indicted on complaint of Nun, and the case was tried at the spring term of the District Court. The testimony was in, the pleas made, and the case given to the jury, who retired to a log cabin, owned by Mrs. Peters, to make up their verdict; but after some hours of wrangling they could not agree, and the bailiff was sent to procure supper. Mrs. Peters consented to feed one-half the jury, and the accommodating officer wended his way to the next neighbor, Smith, for the purpose of procuring the necessary supplies for the other half.

But sad to relate the lady of the house, who was a friend of Stark's, proved obdurate, and, steeling her heart against the wants of the six hungry jurymen, she screamed at the top of her voice, "go back and tell that jury that not one mouthful to eat or drink can they get at my table until they have cleared Stark and convicted Lock."

All attempts to argue the case with her only resulted in making her still more belligerent, and the bailiff was at his wits' end what to do; to return to the jury without the necessary provender was hard, but it seemed to him that to procure it here was much harder. Finally an ally appeared on the scene in the shape of a grown daughter, who, becoming wearied with her mother's frantic ravings, and possibly sympathizing with her "feller" starving on the jury, proposed to get the meal herself, but the old lady being still as impenetrable as an iron-clad, objected forcibly, so thereupon the young lady, calling to her father, exclaimed, "here, Dad, you hold Mam while I get these fellers their supper," and they got it.

In the year 1865 the county went into the liquor traffic, appointing one Marcus Baldwin, county agent, giving him $250 to be expended in purchasing liquors for Union

County," and made annual settlements with him for some time thereafter.

Many fine cattle are yearly fattened in our county, but it is seldom that as good a yoke can be found as were fed by John Ickis about 1857; their weight being four thousand six hundred pounds; they were sold at 1½ cents per pound.

When William M. Lock kept the hotel at Pisgah, he was given to cracking jokes at the expense of his guests, to whose inquiry for accommodations he would tell them, "Yes, if you can put up with wolf meat and whisky," and so soberly would he make this reply that the inviting meals prepared by Mrs. Lock would be a real surprise to the weary traveler, who actually supposed the bill of fare would be that announced by the landlord.

In March, 1851, a fine-looking gentleman, well-mounted, rode up to the door of Lock's house, at Pisgah, about the middle of the afternoon and engaged food and shelter for several herders and a drove of cattle, a short distance behind him.

The necessary arrangements being completed, the stranger inquired of Mr. Lock the distance to the next house, and was answered, "Forty-five miles." Turning a look of incredulity at Uncle Billy, he answered, "That's a d—d lie! I don't believe a word of it, sir. You want to keep me here all night; but you can't do it." He rode on. The next day, at noon, a traveler bound east stopped for dinner at Pisgah, and related that he had seen a man nearly frozen that morning—it being the traveler of the previous day—who had been compelled to sleep on his horse all night, in the middle of the big prairie of Adair County, being afraid to travel for fear of losing his way. He doubtless had ample time to repent of his profane language and ungentlemanly treatment of the Pisgah landlord.

The first district court held in Afton (E. H. Sears, Judge; James Thompson, Clerk; N. Thompson, Sheriff), was at the house of Elbert H. Smith. The building was of logs—an old-fashioned chimney built of clay and sticks being laid up on the outside thereof. A heavy rain coming on, the clay moistened, and, while the honorable Court was in session, the whole chimney suddenly collapsed and came to the ground of its own weight. This unforeseen occurrence compelled the immediate adjournment of court, *nem. con.*—smoked out.

At one time, probably about 1855, a zealous brother who thought he had a call to preach, putting his belief into execution, gave out an appointment at Cooper's old school-house; he supposing, in his modesty, that only a few near neighbors would attend. But as the time drew nigh, what was his surprise, not to say dismay, when, on proceeding to his appointment, he beheld a large congregation gathered, besides more coming on foot, on horseback, by ox-carts and other modes of progression then in vogue among the early settlers.

The good brother's courage failed him as from a little distance he witnessed the gathering, which so far exceeded anything previously witnessed in the settlement, that he was completely dumbfounded. Pride and duty both urged him to go forward and fulfill the appointment, but as often as he essayed to walk toward the school-house, his trembling limbs refused to obey their office.

After several ineffectual attempts to "face the music," he turned away in sorrow, concluding that the ministry of the Word was not his special vocation, and the rest of that afternoon he took refuge among the tall timber of Grand River, leaving the expectant congregation to muse on the mutability of everything in general, and amateur preachers in particular.

In the year 1855, Benjamin Lamb was digging a well at his house, on section 26, Pleasant Township, and on reaching a depth of fifty-three feet the workmen brought up a piece of sawed oak plank, one foot long by three to five inches broad, also a piece of a China tea cup and a lady's tuck comb; all in

a good state of preservation. How they came there is a question that has never been satisfactorily answered.

After considerable settlement had been made in the county, and some of the dealers had violated that section of the code which touches upon the sale of intoxicating liquors, a number of temperance men proposed to go before the Grand Jury, soon to convene, and enter complaint against the offending parties. This coming to the ears of the foreman of the jury, about the hour that court called, he anxiously awaited developments. On the proper organization of the Grand Jury he at once proceeded to business, and as no juryman was conversant with any infraction of law, and no persons were present to enter complaint, the foreman at once suggested an immediate adjournment, which was carried, and the members dispersed to their homes. Some hours after the complaining witnesses put in an appearance, to testify, and, much to their chagrin, found themselves too late for business, and the druggist happy for another six months, thanks to the good offices of the friendly foreman, who, doubtless, had been there, and knew how it was himself.

Sometime about 1856 or 1857 a register was kept of all liquors sold, and for what purpose obtained; and persons, unless well vouched for, could not obtain a supply. This register was examined by the Grand Jury, at their semi-annual sessions. On one occasion, while examining the register, one of the jurors said to another, "H——, where is all the whisky you have bought during the last six months?" "Don't use no boy the stuff," said H——, "and if you will find my name in that register I will treat the jury." A few pages more were examined, when lo! there was the name of Juror H——, "one quart whisky." A laugh was at once raised on him, and the treats were called for vociferously, to which, he, of course, acceded. It subsequently transpired that a worthless fellow, who had worked for H——, on his farm failing to secure the coveted dram on his own account, had called for it for H.'s wife, to "make mince pies with," and the accommodating druggist had, inadvertently, elected H—— for treats for the strictly temperate Grand Jury.

In the year 1859, in the absence of Judge Blanchard, H. A. Botleman who was *ex officio* judge, and as such authorized to issue marriage licenses, was one morning interviewed by a young man who desired a license to marry. Mr. Botleman thereupon wrote out the coveted document, and handed it over to the expectant groom, who then asked the clerk to perform the ceremony. To this Mr. Botleman objected, claiming want of authority; but one of the rising attorneys of Afton, who happened to be present, insisted that Mr. Botleman was competent. Thereupon the happy groom started for his girl. "But," objected Botleman, "I don't know the form." "I will give you one," replied the attorney, who scribbled off a form, barely concluding before the couple appeared, who were straightway made one. This job, though illegal, was well done, the parties living happily together for years, when the wife died in blissful ignorance that her marriage had not been in strict conformity to the Code of Iowa.

In 1854, J. D. Wright, who at the time was living in Union Township, had selected a site for a home, which he proposed to enter. Delaying for a short time, J. F. Ickis came into the county, prospecting, and selected the same location, of which he took the numbers, starting for the Land Office at Chariton on Saturday morning. Being advised of the selection, Wright borrowed a team and ax of James Husband, and during the day hauled logs and laid the foundation of a cabin, starting on Sunday for Chariton. Arriving there, he found the land already entered by Ickis, but, on producing proofs of the foundation being laid previous to the entry, held it by preemption, and Ickis received his money back from the Land Office after waiting a year for it.

An old settler relates the following: During the early days, when to see a light from a house on the prairie a little after sundown meant food and rest to the belated traveler, the resources of the settlers were sometimes taxed to the utmost to accommodate the numerous applicants for shelter. On one occasion there happened to be three or four families stopping over night at the house of one of these pioneers, and, of course, their respective complements of "young 'uns" were not lacking, and our friend, being of a philosophical turn of mind, wondered where and how all the aforesaid "young 'uns" would be accommodated for the night. His doubts were not of long duration, being soon solved by the worthy hostess, who, producing a large trundle-bed, proceeded to pack the rising generation into its capacious recesses like so many red herrings, taking the precaution, however, to leave their heads sticking out on the four sides to enable them to obtain the necessary supply of air; and in the morning, after all the children were sorted out and consigned to their respective departments, not one was found missing, and our friend was filled with a wondering admiration for the executive genius of the female sex in general, and that of his hostess in particular.

COUNTY BUILDINGS.

The old court-house, still standing, and used for mercantile purposes, was built on its present site in 1855, at a cost of $1,750. It is a two-story frame. The court room was below, and above were offices, at first four, and afterward three in number. This building was used until the close of 1872, in which year the new court-house was built. Previous propositions to build a court-house had been voted down, and the sudden conversion of enough to carry the measure was due to the springing up of Creston, as a formidable rival and a possible aspirant for the county seat. The new court house is a two-story brick, costing $25,000. The bonds have all been paid. The court-room is above and also the jury rooms and the office of the county superintendent. Below are the four county offices.

The old jail, now used for a meeting place by the council of Afton, was built of timbers, in 1860, and used until 1880, when the present building was erected. This is a neat two-story affair, and is considered a good jail, although several escapes have been made from it.

The county infirmary and poor farm are located on the northwest quarter of section 12, Highland Township. The house is a fine brick building, three stories high, 36x50 feet in dimensions. It was built in 1879, and contains thirty well-arranged and suitably-furnished rooms. Everything is neat and clean, and in perfect order. The barn is 36x44 feet, in size, with a fourteen-foot shed at the end, and a basement. There are also a well-built corn crib and wagon shed. The whole is in charge of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Hager, whose economical and wise management has elicited warm praise from all acquainted with this and former administrations.

Union County issued $25,000 of bonds to build its present court-house. These are all paid off, but $16,000 of bonds issued for other purposes are now outstanding.

POPULATION OF THE COUNTY.

The census returns since the organization of the county have been as follows:

1850, 80; 1854, 101; 1856, 806; 1859, 2,003; 1860, 2,012; 1863, 2,420; 1865, 2,538; 1867, 3,010; 1869, 3,821; 1870, 5,986; 1873, 6,911; 1875, 8,827; 1880, 14,980; 1885, 16,502.

The population by townships in 1860 was: Dodge, 86; Highland, 235; Jones, 281; New Hope, 149; Platte, 322; Pleasant, 377; Union, 562. In 1870—Dodge, 229; Douglas, 324; Highland, 247; Jones, 840; Lincoln, 569; New Hope, 299; Platte, 565; Pleasant, 563; Sand Creek, 328; Union, 1,531. 1880—Dodge, 497; Douglas, 5,920; Grant, 613; Highland, 640; Jones, 1,656; Lincoln,

782; New Hope, 528; Platte, 963; Pleasant, 682; Sand Creek, 611; Spaulding, 593; Union, 2,055. 1885—Dodge, 566; Douglas, 769; Grant, 643; Highland, 582; Jones, 751; Lincoln, 777; New Hope, 555; Platte, 829; Pleasant, 667; Sand Creek, 574; Spaulding, 656; Union, 628; Afton, 1,112; Creston, 7,393.

The number of dwellings in 1885 was 3,332; number of families, 3,402; number of white males, 8,532; number of white females, 7,809; number of colored males, 79; number of colored females, 82; native-born, 14,723; foreign-born, 1,779. Born in Germany, 466; Ireland, 399; Sweden, 234; Canada, 180; England, 144; Bohemia, 186; Scotland, 38; France, 21; Wales, 19; Denmark, 19; Norway, 9; Holland, 4; other countries, 60; natives of Iowa, 6,877; Illinois, 2,267; Ohio, 1,736; Pennsylvania, 832; Indiana, 764; New York, 568; Missouri, 291; Virginia, 165; Kentucky, 152; Wisconsin, 118; Kansas, 107; Vermont, 109; Michigan, 96; Massachusetts, 87; Maine, 82; New Jersey, 64; West Virginia, 58; Nebraska, 55; Connecticut, 47; Maryland, 41; Tennessee, 36; Minnesota, 34; New Hampshire, 29; North Carolina, 26; Rhode Island, 17; Georgia, 11; Colorado, 6; California, 5; Arkansas, 4; Louisiana, 4; Mississippi, 4; Texas, 4; Alabama, 3; Delaware, 3; Nevada, 3; Oregon, 2; South Carolina, 2; Dakota, 5; Wyoming, 4; Utah, 2; Washington, 2; Idaho, 1.

AFTON.

AFTON, the county seat of Union County, is located on sections 16 and 21, Union Township, two miles east of the geographical center of the county. The site is well selected, commanding a fine view of a large scope of country. The undulations of surface are sufficient to afford ample drainage for the streets, which are wide and regularly laid out. Twelve-Mile Creek runs only a short distance to the west of the town, giving a pleasing variety to the adjacent scenery.

The land was owned and the town platted by E. A. Temple, of Chariton, in 1854, and received its christening from the wife of the proprietor. In February, 1855, the county seat was located here by the special commissioners. The first house was built of logs, 20x20 feet, by David Fife, in April, 1855, who occupied it as a store and dwelling. When the roof was half on, he moved his family and a small stock of groceries into this house of a single room, and commenced retailing goods.

The next house was built by Elbert H. Smith, on the north half of the northeast quarter of section 21, adjoining the town plat.

Next, William Collings built a plank cabin, 10x12. This also was a one-room, one-story building, and over the door was a shingle with the word "Entertainment" painted on it in prominent letters. Shortly after this, September 15, 1855, occurred the first public sale of lots in Afton, the attendance being quite large, numbering about fifty, and including quite a number of parties from Knoxville, Osceola and Chariton.

The sale was a success, only one lot on the public square selling for less than $100. At noon the sale adjourned, and the crowd took dinner at Colling's house, the "bill of fare" being mutton, corn bread and coffee.

W. H. Brinkerhoff built the next house, also of logs, on the east side of the square, adjoining that now occupied by F. Brockman, and in it started a dry-goods and grocery store, living in the back part of the room with his family. In addition to this house being used for a store and dwelling it also contained the postoffice (W. H. Brinkerhoff, deputy postmaster), and the office of James B. Dawson, county judge.

During this season numerous other buildings were erected, the most important of which was a frame store building, 20x40, one and a half stories high, built by J. Norris, and rented to D. J. Guthridge, who, in the fall of 1855, filled it with a fine stock of general merchandise, by far the finest stock in the county.

The fall of 1855 found the town of Afton in a hopeful and thriving condition, numerous stores and dwellings having been built, the county seat located, and everything indicated a healthy growth the following season. In addition to those already named, there came this season J. W. Alley, M. Baldwin, J. B. Dawson, Rev. W. C. Williams, Reuben Riggs, James Blanchard, J. B. White and H. Robb.

The first resident physician in Afton was Dr. W. B. Davis, who settled in the summer of 1856. In May of that year, the Pisgah postoffice, which had been itinerating from one point to another until finally brought to Brinkerhoff's store, was changed to Afton, and T. M. Robinson received the appointment of postmaster; the service was weekly, and the mail matter was of a very limited character, almost entirely letters, with only an occasional paper, the first year's salary amounting to the munificent sum of $10, and the office could almost be carried in the commodious hat of the postmaster. At this time the mail route which supplied Afton ran from Chariton *via* Osceola and Afton to Plattsmouth, being carried on horseback, once a week.

In the winter of 1855–'6, John C. Snow built a two-story log house for a hotel. This building he in a few months sold to William Leck, who hung out the sign "Afton House," catering to the wants of the traveler in both solids and fluids.

In the spring of 1856, James Blanchard erected a store building 20x40 feet, one story high, on the south side of the public square, and filled it with a stock of drugs and groceries. He was a man of enterprise and means, educated and qualified for positions of honor and trust. About this time J. B. Dawson, attorney at law and county judge, who came to Afton from Petersville, in 1855, built a frame office 16x24, where Truman's bank now stands.

During the summer of 1856, Joseph Norris commenced building the Occidental House, but did not complete the same until 1857. The improvements in Afton were not large this year, the question of removing the county seat being strongly urged by the citizens of the then flourishing village of Highland, the question of removal tending to unsettle the minds of persons desiring to locate, and the consequence being a refusal to make investments until the matter should be finally decided.

In the deed of dedication every alternate lot was donated to the county for public purposes, and by order of County Judge Dawson, April, 1856, the proceeds of such sale were to be used to erect public buildings in Afton. In 1856–'7, the strife for relocating the county seat became very bitter, and every means was adopted to carry out the intentions of parties interested. Highland was better built and a finer-looking town than Afton, and John D. Wright, J. F. Ickis, Dr. J. A. Day and some others urged its claims with great vehemence. For a time the indications were that Afton would come out second best, and it was a matter of serious discussion how to avert the impending danger. Judge Blanchard, a resident and a very zealous advocate of Afton, concluded to try a piece of strategy which should demoralize the Highlanders. Accordingly, taking the postmaster, T. M. Robinson, into the plot, he wrote himself a letter purporting to come from the President of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, and stating that they had decided to run the road through Afton (the exact location had not been determined upon, and both towns were contestants). Handing it to the postmaster before the arrival of the weekly mail, he received it with his other mail matter in the regular way. A large crowd being gathered at the time in the postoffice, he opened the important document, which he read carefully, and, apparently surprised and greatly elated, he announced to the crowd present (some being

the leaders of the Highland faction) the contents of the letter received. Dismay and consternation took hold of the opposition, and one of the leaders announced, as he left the office: "By G—d, boys, we are beat." And at the election the week following, the Highlanders were so disheartened that they did not work with their previous zeal, and so lost the county seat.

The railroad was, however, not located for years after.

The first school in Afton was taught during the winter of 1856-'7, by Charles Milnes, in a log house, 16 x 20, on lot 473. The school was well attended and successfully conducted. The first frame dwelling house in Afton was built by T. M. Robinson, on lot 472, in the summer of 1856. Immediately after the election which confirmed Afton in her position as county seat, the contract was awarded to Gorton C. Hollars, for building the court-house, for the sum of $1,750.75; work was at once commenced on the same, the building being completed in November, 1857.

The Occidental House was finished this season, and occupied by its owner, J. Norris, as a hotel; it gave better accommodations to the traveling public than had been heretofore enjoyed.

In the thirty-odd years that have elapsed since Afton was located, there has been much to stimulate the growth of the town, and the citizens have not been slow to improve their advantages. The center of a large scope of fertile agricultural lands, with a class of business men with means and experience, with the advantages of being the county seat, with men of capital resident in the town, with ample educational and religious advantages, the town will, doubtless, keep abreast with the improvements of other places.

POPULATION.

By 1870 the population of Afton reached nearly 1,600. It grew very slowly after this, reaching 1,214 in 1880. The State census of 1885 gives 1,112 as the population.

INCORPORATION.

Afton was incorporated during the last months of 1868, and the officers elected to serve until the regular annual election in the spring of 1869, were as follows: Mayor, T. M. Robinson; Councilmen, H. C. Grimes, George A. Stone, W. R. Roberts, Riley Marley and D. A. Thornton; Attorney, S. W. McElderry; Recorder, J. S. Syp; Assessor, J. D. Spencer; Marshal, W. H. Beard; Treasurer, Ira Seeley. The officers for each year since have been:

1869.—(Same as above.)

1870.—Mayor, S. W. McElderry; Councilmen, S. N. Miller, G. C. Wilson, John Syp, N. C. Vickers and Jacob Elliott; Recorder, J. E. Cherry; Marshal, J. P. Smith; Assessor, J. C. Lucas.

1871.—Mayor, S. W. McElderry; Councilmen, N. W. Rowell, E. C. Wilcox, N. C. Vickers, H. C. Grimes and D. A. Thornton; Recorder, O. E. Davis; Marshal, John Lloyd; Assessor, D. J. Spencer; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk; Street Commissioner, John Lloyd; Attorney, N. W. Rowell.

1872.—Mayor, S. W. McElderry; Councilmen, H. A. Botleman, J. M. Fleming, George P. Wilson, L. Lemon and D. J. Spencer; Recorder, O. E. Davis; Attorney, George P. Wilson; Marshal, John Lloyd; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk; Street Commissioner, John Lloyd.

1873.—Mayor, J. M. Milligan; Recorder, O. E. Davis; Councilmen, H. A. Botleman, C. L. Tilden, Lewis Lemon, D. J. Spencer and George P. Wilson; Marshal and Street Commissioner, John Lloyd; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk; Attorney, S. W. McElderry; Assessor, T. M. Robinson.

1874.—Mayor, J. M. Milligan; Councilmen, D. J. Spencer, A. Dickinson, Ed. Grindle, T. C. Ashby and C. L. Tilden; Recorder, O. E. Davis; Marshal and Street

Commissioner, John Lloyd; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk; Attorney, D. D. Gregory.

1875.—Mayor, N. W. Rowell; Councilmen, T. C. Ashby, H. A. Botleman, A. Dickinson, C. L. Tilden and P. Allen; Recorder, J. W. Alley; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk; Marshal and Street Commissioner, John Lloyd; Attorney, J. M. Milligan.

1876.—Mayor, N. W. Rowell; Councilmen, A. Dickinson, I. N. Rice, C. L. Tilden, T. C. Ashby and J. W. Cherry; Recorder, J. W. Alley; Attorney, J. M. Milligan; Marshal, John Campbell; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk; Street Commissioner, John Lloyd.

1877.—Mayor, T. M. Robinson; Councilmen, P. Allen, J. T. Beebe, George Brown, J. A. Grant and Henry Slater; Recorder, J. W. Alley; Treasurer, O. E. Davis; Marshal, John Campbell; Street Commissioner, I. N. Cherry; Attorney, J. M. Milligan.

1878.—Mayor, T. M. Robinson; Councilmen, P. Allen, J. F. Syp, Henry Slater, J. A. Grant and Henry Bolinger; Recorder, Josiah Needham; Treasurer, O. E. Davis; Marshal, John Campbell; Street Commissioner, F. M. Richey.

1879.—Mayor, J. A. Grant; Councilmen, J. M. Milligan, D. J. Spencer, H. Slater, A. J. White, S. W. McElderry and T. C. Ashby; Recorder, W. H. Robb; Marshal, L. Petrie; Treasurer, J. E. Hays, Jr.; Street Commissioner, J. F. Syp.

1880.—Mayor, J. E. Cherry; Councilmen, T. C. Ashby, H. Slater, J. M. Milligan, D. J. Spencer, S. W. McElderry and P. H. Seay; Recorder, J. W. Beebe; Marshal, L. Petrie; Attorney, A. W. Enoch; Treasurer, James E. Hays, Jr.; Street Commissioner, M. Carter.

1881.—Mayor, J. E. Cherry; Councilmen, T. C. Ashby, H. M. Slater, S. W. McElderry, D. J. Spencer, J. M. Milligan and P. H. Seay; Recorder, J. J. Baxter; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk; Marshal, L. Petrie; Assessor, T. M. Robinson; Street Commissioner, R. F. Bagg.

1883.—Mayor, W. E. Pridgen; Councilmen, T. C. Ashby, Charles Bothe, H. Epperson, J. W. Lewis, D. J. Spencer and H. M. Slater; Recorder, J. J. Baxter; Attorney, A. W. Enoch; Street Commissioner, M. V. French; Marshal, C. W. Shull; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk.

1884.—Mayor, J. T. Beebe; Councilmen, R. S. Beymer, George Brown, H. Epperson, P. Kearney, D. J. Spencer and F. S. Van Patten; Recorder, J. J. Baxter; Attorney, A. W. Enoch; Street Commissioner, Thomas Mooney; Marshal, George Sholtz; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk.

1885.—Mayor, J. T. Beebe; Councilmen, R. S. Beymer, J. E. Cherry, P. Kearney, H. Epperson, F. S. Van Patten, D. J. Spencer; Recorder, J. J. Baxter; Attorney, A. W. Enoch; Street Commissioner, Thomas Mooney; Marshal, Thomas C. Ashby; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk.

1886.—Mayor, J. T. Beebe; Councilmen, H. Bolinger, T. G. Briggs, J. E. Cherry, H. Epperson, F. S. Van Patten and D. J. Spencer; Recorder, J. J. Baxter; Attorney, A. W. Enoch; Street Commissioner, Thomas Mooney; Marshal, W. J. Staggs; Treasurer, Theodore F. Shunk.

POSTMASTERS.

The postoffice of Afton is the legitimate successor to that of Pisgah, which has been referred to elsewhere. John D. Wright was postmaster at the time the office was removed to the county seat. The postmasters since his incumbency have been in succession: T. M. Robinson, William H. Williams, Dr. John Roberts, Lee Ewing, William Keating, Lee Ewing (again), William Keating (again), George Beymer, I. N. Rice, O. U. Ickis, S. W. McElderry, and C. K. Ingham, who was appointed March 1, 1885.

SCHOOLS.

Of the two school buildings now in Afton the frame was built in 1867 or 1868, and ca-

larged in 1883, and the brick was erected in 1876. Both are two stories in height. The frame contains five rooms; and the brick, which cost $13,000, contains four rooms. The former is in the southern part of the village, and the latter is four blocks west of the square. A well-arranged course of study is pursued, ending in a high school where pupils are fitted for college or for business life. Latin and German are the languages taught. Classes have graduated each year since 1879. In 1885–'6, $3,359.96 was paid to teachers, and the annual school expenditures amount to about $5,000. Nine teachers are employed, including the principal, who is, for the year 1886–'7, S. D. Lucas. In 1885–'6, J. H. Hays was in charge, and for the previous eight years C. B. Stayt, present county superintendent, had the management of the schools. During one year of Mr. Stayt's administration there were two more enrolled than there were persons of school age in the district. This was because of a large attendt ance of non-resident pupils. The presen-number of school age is 531. The school year is ten months in length. The School Board includes E. J. Emmons (President), R. S. Peymer, F. W. Brockman, R. J. McKee, J. M. Milligan and W. P. Cowl. D. Davenport is Secretary and J. F. Creel, Treasurer.

BANKS.

The first bank in Afton was the Citizens', opened in 1869, by J. E. Hays and T. F. Shunk. It closed in 1876.

The First National Bank was organized in 1876, with $50,000 capital. Dr. J. T. Beebe was president, and O. E. Davis, cashier, until the bank went out of business, between three and four years later.

The Afton Bank was started in 1876, by R. Truman, and is still in business.

CHURCHES.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—The first preacher appointed to visit Afton was named by the Conference of 1854, and the first quarterly meeting was held in December of that year. The first class was formed in January, 1855, at the residence of Sarah Collings, now Mrs. Sarah Ray, and she was the first to join. The other members were Joseph Eck and wife, Dr. James Lewis and wife, Colonel J. W. Alley and wife, Mrs. Collings and Mrs. Williams. Mr. Eck was the first class-leader. The meetings were held in private houses until 1856, then in the school-house until 1858, and for the next five years in the old court-house. The society then built, under the ministration of Rev. D. Sheets, the first church in Afton. In 1868, under the charge of Rev. T. McK. Stuart, this building was enlarged and improved.

The pastors have been, in succession, Revs. W. C. Williams (still a resident of Union County, living on a farm), Spooner, B. Mitchell, Jacob Delay, D. Sheets, S. E. Willing, G. J. Nixon, B. Shinn, David La Mont, George Binks, A. Brown, M. Miller, P. St. Clair, J. A. Stayt, T. McK. Stuart, J. Miller, William Plasted, W. F. Bartholomew, C. J. Waynick and J. H. Sensney.

The membership of the church is about 160. A union Sunday-school was organized as early as 1857, and in 1859 a distinctively Methodist school was formed; C. B. Stayt is superintendent, and the attendance is about 125. The stewards of the church are: I. N. Cherry, N. W. Rowell, B. T. Nix, C. B. Stayt, R. B. Kelley, Mrs. L. S. Groves and Mrs. J. Yager. The trustees are: C. B. Stayt, N. W. Rowell, B. T. Nix, L. S. Groves, J. F. Bishop, J. Yager and I. N. Cherry.

The Presbyterian Church was organized June 15, 1857, by Rev. L. G. Bell, at the house of T. M. Robinson, and Mrs. Robinson was the first member. The charter name was the "Twelve-Mile Presbyterian Church, of Union County, Iowa." For some time after the organization, the church enjoyed the occasional ministrations of Father Bell, who resided at Sidney, Fremont County. The

succeeding pastors have been Revs. Hugh Reed, Caldwell, G. N. Swan (two years), S. A. McElheny (one year), J. Osmond (one year), W. E. Hamilton (one year), Robert Boag (four years), Rev. R. H. Cunningham (four years), J. B. Welty (one year), J. W. Stoutenberg (two years), Alexander M. Darley (one year) and W. E. Hamilton, D. D. The last named left in September, 1886, to take charge of the society in Creston.

The church building was erected in 1869, as a memorial to Father Bell, at a cost of $3,500. It has been improved at different times, $300 being expended in the spring of 1886. The membership of the church is now about 140. The elders are J. A. Day, William Morrow, E. Fulton (clerk and treasurer), J. M. Milligan, George Miller, Justus Miller, E. J. Emmons and W. P. Cowl. The deacons are: G. L. Barnum, J. M. Pinkerton, R. J. McKee and T. M. Robinson.

The Baptist Church was organized in 1864, and a church built in the northwest part of the village three years later, at a cost of $2,900, exclusive of the lot. The pastors have been Revs. Thomas Miller, A. Robbins, A. R. Hicks, A. H. Delano, William Carpenter and A. H. Lyons. The membership is now seventy-seven. The trustees last chosen were: D. D. Gregory and Joseph Cornelius (deceased). The deacons are: Daniel Clough and J. F. Creel. J. H. Crawford is superintendent of the Sunday-school, which has an attendance of about ninety-five.

Evangelical Church.—The Hope Church, of the Evangelical Association, was located and built at Afton, Union County, Iowa, in 1869. It was built under the direction of Rev. D. H. Kooker, and is in size 30x60—eighteen feet high. The pastors have been, besides Rev. Kooker, Revs. Moneysmith, Schoenenberger, Kipplinger, Mell, Buzzard, Kleinfelter, Yerger, Wirth and Beam. Services are held every Sunday.

Catholic Church.—Services were held at irregular intervals as early as 1875 at this point. Father Phelan, of Creston, began to come here regularly in 1878. In December, 1879, was completed the church, in the northern portion of Afton. It cost, besides the lot, about $1,000. In the summer of 1885 Father Alvin took up the work of Father Phelan, and commencing with the autumn of 1886, Father Bede is in charge. He comes two to three times every month. About twenty families worship at this point.

The Seventh-Day Adventists have held meetings regularly on every Sabbath (Saturday). They have no ordained pastor, but are under charge of Elder James Syp. Their house of worship was erected in 1876, at a cost of $700. It is southwest of the new school-house, and 40x26 feet in size. The membership is now about forty, having been reduced from more. James Sylvester is superintendent of the Sabbath-school, which includes about twenty pupils. Frank Sylvester is the deacon of the church.

SOCIETIES.

Afton Lodge, No. 151, A. F. & A. M., was chartered June 8, 1860, J. F. Roberts, Samuel E. Robinson and J. F. Syp being named as the first members. The officers for 1886 are: J. H. Crawford, Worshipful Master; J. E. Cherry, Senior Warden; D. J. Guthridge, Junior Warden; T. F. Shunk, Secretary, and C. W. Pinkerton, Treasurer. Meetings are held on Friday evening preceding each full moon. The membership of the lodge is now sixty. The lodge has just purchased a two-story frame building at the southwest corner of the square, at a cost of $1,200. The lower story will be rented out for mercantile purposes, and the upper story reserved for lodge purposes.

Tessera Chapter, No. 67, R. A. M., was organized in 1872, with eighteen members, and the following first officers: E. C. Wilcox, High Priest; A. F. Jekis, King; J. F. Syp, Scribe; C. L. Tilden, Treasurer; W. F. Cornwall, Recorder. The chapter now has

thirty-five members, and meets on Wednesday evening before each full moon. The officers for 1886 are: T. F. Shunk, High Priest; J. F. Syp, King; I. N. Cherry, Scribe; E. J. Emmons, Treasurer; B. T. Nix, Recorder.

Afton Lodge, No. 130, *I. O. O. F.*, was organized August 21, 1860, and chartered on the 18th of October, following. The first members were James M. Lamb, Noble Grand; James B. Robinson, Vice-Grand; James W. McDill, Secretary; Thomas J. Myers, Treasurer, and T. M. Robinson. The lodge meets every Saturday evening, in its hall on the south side of the square. It owns a two-story brick, which cost $4,700. The lodge yet owes $2,500. The lower story of the building is rented for mercantile purposes.

Afton Encampment, No. 61, *I. O. O. F.*, was chartered October 22, 1873, the charter members being M. V. Ashby, T. C. Ashby, Riley Marley, J. Draper, William Devolt, T. M. Richey and R. H. Deimege. The officers in September, 1886, are: C. M. Bird, C. P.; Henry Slater, Senior Warden; George Brown, Junior Warden; R. Carter, H. P.; M. V. Ashby, Scribe; D. Davenport, Treasurer. The membership is now thirty. Meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, at Odd Fellows' Hall.

Ivy Lodge, No. 39, *D. of R.*, was organized in October, 1875, and after running about three years suspended. It was re-organized under the same charter, January 15, 1884, with J. E. Cherry as Noble Grand; Mrs. R. S. Beymer as Vice-Grand; R. J. McKee as Secretary, and Mrs. Hubbell as Treasurer. The present officers are: Mrs. Crawford, Noble Grand; Mrs. J. E. Cherry, Vice-Grand; Miss Lovilla Bird, Secretary; Mrs. Cramer, Treasurer. The membership is sixty, and meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

Centennial Lodge, No. 34, *K. P.*, was chartered February 8, 1876, the first members being B. E. Raymond, O. E. Davis, J. N. Rice, J. W. Beebe, Theodore F. Shunk, C. L. Tilden, J. E. Hays, L. V. Vickers, S. W. McElderry, T. C. Ashby and J. W. Alley. The officers at present writing are: M. V. Ashby, C. C.; C. W. Pinkerton, V. C.; H. E. Bolinger, Prelate; W. H. Byrum, P. C.; S. M. Beall, K. of R. & S.; F. A. Shute, M. of F., and Truman Swaine, M. of E. The lodge has a membership of thirty, and meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, at Odd Fellows' Hall.

Henry Keating Post, No. 211, *G. A. R.*, was organized July 18, 1883, with the following officers: C. B. Stayt, Commander; B. T. Nix, Senior Commander; G. O. Ickis, Junior Vice-Commander; R. J. McKee, Adjutant; E. J. Emmons, Quartermaster; J. H. Crawford, Chaplain; J. F. Bishop, Officer of the Day; C. M. Bird, Officer of the Guard; W. T. Craig, Sergeant Major; George Wick, Quartermaster Sergeant. The officers for 1886 are: B. T. Nix, Commander; J. D. Kirkendall, Senior Vice-Commander; Joseph Yeager, Junior Vice-Commander; M. V. Ashby, Adjutant; E. J. Emmons, Quartermaster; C. B. Stayt, Chaplain; W. E. Pridgen, Officer of the Day; C. M. Johnson, Officer of the Guard; George Lane, Sergeant Major; John Hutchins, Quartermaster Sergeant. The post has a membership of ninety-four, and meets at Bishop's Hall, the first and third Mondays of each month.

George H. Thomas Camp, No. 29, *S. of V.*, was organized in the autumn of 1885. It has now nearly thirty members, and meets every two weeks at Bishop's Hall. W. H. Keating is Captain; William Bishop, First Lieutenant, and John Crawford, Second Lieutenant.

Company D, Fifth Regiment, Iowa National Guard, was organized about 1876, John S. Elliott being the first Captain. The membership has been about forty all the time. Officers in 1886: R. J. McKee, Captain; M. W. Keating, First Lieutenant, and J. W. Rowell, Second Lieutenant. The company has been called out twice by the Governor.

It usually meets every two weeks for drill, and every summer it attends brigade encampment. The company has a suitable armory on the east side of the square.

The Afton Library Association was organized in August, 1883, Judge McDill being the first President. The library now contains nearly 1,000 volumes. It is open Wednesdays and Saturdays, from two to five o'clock. Present officers: Henry Bolinger, President; J. W. Lander, Vice-President; A. W. Enoch, Treasurer; F. A. Shute, Secretary and Librarian. The membership fee is $1.00. Tickets are issued quarterly.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

The business firms of Afton in 1886 are:

W. S. Averill, dentist; F. W. Brockman & Co., general store; Brown & Creel, meat market and grocery; L. C. Beebe, drugs; Henry Bolinger, blacksmith; A. W. Bolinger, blacksmith; T. G. Briggs, carpenter; J. T. Bishop, *Tribune-News;* Baxter & Claussen, *Enterprise;* J. P. Barber, painter; Curtis Bros., creamery and grocery; J. W. Cherry, drugs; W. P. Cowl, grain buyer; A. M. Calkins, American House; W. D. Christy, drugs; James Draper, livery; Epperson Bros., general store; H. Golisch, blacksmith; A. A. Haley, photographer and jeweler; James Harscher, blacksmith; E. Haddix, Madison House; John Hutchinson, harness-maker; W. R. Hunter, carpenter; L. B. Jones, bakery and grocery; Henry Keating, hardware; Joshua Keating, stoves and tinware; H. C. Killer, stock-buyer; J. L. Loughery, carpenter; H. C. Lassen, harness-maker; McKee & Emerson, boots and shoes; Fred. McClellan, livery; H. McNeil, livery; H. R. Mester, jewelry; James McYoung, flour and feed; George Mertz, boots and shoes; W. J. Phillips, dentist; W. E. Pridgen, wagon-maker; J. M. Pinkerton, wagon-maker; Mrs. A. Robb, millinery; E. Ricedorff, plasterer; S. Richards, general store; L Raguet, grocery; E. D. Rand & Co., lumber; Smith, Occidental House; J. E. Smith, tin-shop; F. A. Shute, restaurant; W. K. Syp, general store; Truman Swaine, general store; Charles Samuelson, tailor; Syp & Emmons, hardware; R. Truman, bank; G. M. Violet, furniture; F. S. Van Patten, grain and stock-buyer; Mrs. W. Williams, millinery; J. C. Wagner, painter; John Wilford, painter; T. H. Wheeler, restaurant; Joseph Yeager, clothing.

CRESTON.

PHENOMENAL is the only word that can adequately express the growth of Creston. Now a city of 7,000 inhabitants, there are young men living who are scarcely old enough to vote, who can easily remember the time when there was no Creston, no railroad, in fact, in the county; and Union County was but a sparsely-settled prairie region in the then new country of Southwestern Iowa.

Seventeen years ago, at present writing, the site of the city of 1886 was covered with luxuriant prairie grass, dotted here and there with lovely wild-flowers. Soon the neigh of the iron horse, heralding the approach of the great Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, was heard. It was in 1869 that the road extended west from Afton, and with the advent of the railroad timbers were unloaded, to be framed; a tent was pitched, and shortly after a shanty was built to accommodate the workmen with a boarding place. Then came the officers of the railroad looking for a site for a division station, and the location of their repair shops. A survey was made, and the present site of the town of Creston was found to be the highest point on the line of the railroad between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, and in all respects most desirable for building purposes. Hence stakes were set, the town platted, and named Creston on account of its being the "crest" or highest point between the two great rivers, and in a few weeks the first buildings in the town began to dot the prairie. The site for the town was purchased by inside officials of the railroad construction company, who organized themselves into a town company. Their individual names are never used, the property being managed by a trustee. About 250 acres were included in the town as first laid out.

The round-house, machine shops and other railroad buildings were at once pushed to completion, to give the town a substantial appearance, and the road was rapidly extended westward. Stock yards were built, and the embryo city was thoroughly advertised among the old eastern counties. The first store was erected by A. C. Rowell, on Union Street, shortly followed by Thornton, Way & Co., on an adjoining lot; the impression at that time being that the business part of the town would be located upon the south side of the railroad track. Subsequently the tide set in favor of the north side, where almost the entire business of the place is now transacted.

INCORPORATION.

In April, 1871, the town was incorporated, and at the first municipal election about fifty votes were polled, a small candy box being used to receive the ballots. The first officers were: S. D. Swan, Mayor; H. M. Way, R. P. Smith, James Butler, J. J. Leeper and J. C. Mullen, Councilmen; C. S. Rex, Recorder; J. D. Duggan, Treasurer; G. P. Butts, Assessor.

About this time a few brick buildings began to go up, and now the business district is almost solid with two-story brick buildings. The residences are almost all frame structures, but many of them show wealth and taste on the part of the owners.

From the character of much of the early population the saloon question became an important one. Local prohibition was hardly practicable, and high license was proposed as the next best thing. During the mayoralty of J. B. Harsh, and largely through his efforts the saloon license was fixed at $1,000. Subsequently, and by stages, it was increased to $1,600, the highest, so far as known, in the world. The revenues of Creston from saloon licenses reached in one year $16,000.

GROWTH.

In 1872 the rapidly-growing town received an unusual impetus, which lasted for several years. While in 1870 the population was 411, in 1873 it had reached 1,087. It was 1,819 in 1875, by the State census, and the young city was now famous. *The Prairie Farmer* of December 14, 1875, said of Creston: "At Creston we find a country unsurpassed in the West, and we found, on inquiry, that we were not alone of this opinion. Land in the vicinity of Creston has increased in value amazingly within three years; more than doubled, and in many instances trebled in value, in that short space of time. Neat, small houses, built upon a lot, may be rented to pay enormous rates of interest. One thousand dollars will buy a lot and build thereon improvements which rent readily for $150 to $180 per year. The business in Creston is conducted nearer on a cash basis than any other point along the line, in Iowa. It is here that the company have a division station, where they have the largest engine house in the West, if not on the continent. A large number of the men employed by the company live and thrive in Creston. They here receive their wages, and, as all busy communities are wont to do, they spend their money at home. * * * Over $40,000 per month is here paid to the employes of the road, by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, and is by the men paid out in Creston. Some of the finest residences in town are built and occupied by railroad employes. * * * Thus the surplus earnings of the men are being kept at home, and the profits accruing are used in increasing facilities for the benefit of all."

In 1880 the United States census was taken, showing a population for Creston of 5,081. The growth of the city continued at a more moderate rate for three years more, since when it has been about stationary. The State census of 1885 showed 7,387 people in the city. Every city has its periods of depression and slow growth and low values, and it could hardly be expected that Creston would be an exception. Such a period in the history of the city has come, and already gone, though few knew it, so slight was its effects. The years 1884 and 1885 and part of 1886 form this critical time in Creston's progress. The population being so entirely made up of young men, restless and active, it was to be feared that with the first bad year an emigration would begin to newer places. This has not taken place. Creston is once more on the rise of the wave. In this important respect the history of the town is unlike that of most new places, which, springing up on the various lines of railroad, flourish for a time, and then, having outgrown the surrounding country, with no vitality of their own, dwindle and decay. The location of the

machine shops, stock-yards and division station here necessarily gives employment to a large number of workmen, who become citizens of the town, and contribute largely to the support of its business and municipal interests.

ADDITIONS.

The original town plat included about 250 acres. The railroad tracks and buildings occupy about eight blocks. South of these was a nearly square area, six blocks north and south by eight east and west. North of the track there were twenty-two blocks of the original plat. These contain most of the business buildings.

The principal additions laid out during the first six years were: West Creston, section A, twenty blocks; section B, of irregular shape but about the same size; Swigert's first and second additions, north of old plat, containing twelve and sixteen blocks respectively; McDonald's addition, east of these, but north of the track, over forty blocks; Devoe's addition, in the northwestern part of the city, and Stone and Elliott's Lake View addition, a mile west of the depot.

During the last ten years the principal additions have been: West Creston, section C, Baker and Higbee's first and second addition, the "railroad addition," Levy addition, first northern addition, Swigert's north addition, Devoe's second addition and McDonald's addition, section C, all north of the railroad, and the first southern addition and South Hill addition, south of the railroad.

STREETS.

The principal east and west streets are: Harsh, Swigert, Carpenter, Jefferson, Summit, Howard, Mills, Montgomery, Adams, Union, Clarke, Lucas, Monroe, Fremont, Page and Taylor.

The principal north and south streets are: High, Center, McDonald, Cedar, Chestnut, Mulberry, Poplar, Cherry, Vine, Birch, Walnut, Pine, Maple, Elm, Oak, Division, Page, Wyoming Avenue, Livingstone Avenue, New York Avenue, Broad Avenue, Sumner Avenue, Crescent, Russell, Sycamore, Spruce and Chestnut.

Besides the above there are some new or short streets in the numerous additions which have been laid out.

AREA OF THE CITY.

The city of Creston contains an area of 2,540 acres; total miles of street, 85; total miles of sidewalk, 18; frontage of brick buildings, 1,490 feet, and brick buildings estimated worth $720,000. There are 2,340 feet of sewerage, and a vast amount of water mains to be hereafter mentioned.

THE HEALTH OF THE CITY.

Creston has always been noted as a healthy city. It is high and dry, and the air salubrious. There are few hot days during the summer, and the people of Creston are seldom impelled to leave the city to escape the heat. There were only 109 deaths in Creston from July 1, 1884, to July 1, 1885, being only one death to every seventy-three inhabitants, and we doubt if any city in Iowa can show a better health record.

CITY OFFICERS.

Creston is a city of the second class. In March of each year the voters choose a mayor, treasurer, assessor and other city officers, and two aldermen from each of the five wards. The old books of the city have been misplaced, so that the officers previous to 1882 cannot be given. For the past five years the officers have been:

1882.—Mayor, J. B. Harsh; Councilmen, A. E. Keith, E. Derr, W. H. Hamilton, A. Christeson, L. C. Teed, B. Burch, S. L. Russell and O. E. Bennett; Clerk, J. A. Lewis; Marshal, William Skinner; Street Commissioner, E. W. Linton; Fire Warden, C. W. Fahlsing; Treasurer, W. E. Ward; Attorney, D. H. Estes; Assessor, David Wooley.

1883.—Mayor, F. J. Taylor; Councilmen, J. B. Wilson, W. H. Hamilton, O. E. Bennett, John Hall, E. Derr, S. L. Russell, Joseph Norton and Henry Brittenstein; Clerk, W. J. Hunsaker; Treasurer, A. V. Scott; Marshal, S. Rinehart; Street Commissioner, E. W. Luster; Fire Warden, C. W. Fahlsing.

1884.—Mayor, C. C. Fisher; Councilmen, J. B. Wilson, D. Brydon, John Hall, W. H. Robb, E. Derr, P. Brennan, Joseph Norton and J. M. Wells; Clerk, W. J. Hunsaker; Treasurer, Philip Derr; Attorney, W. A. Spurrier; Marshal, S. Rinehart; Street Commissioner, D. J. Miller; Fire Warden, W. C. Yancey.

1885.—Mayor, F. J. Taylor; Councilmen, J. B. Wilson, D. Brydon, W. H. Robb, M. A. Nye, P. Brennan, J. W. Frazier, J. M. Wells and F. H. Doty; Clerk, I. S. Roseberry; Treasurer, G. P. Batts; Marshal, John Wood; Street Commissioner, George A. Andrews; Fire Warden, John McNeil.

1886.—Mayor, A. E. Keith; Councilmen, J. B. Wilson, J. A. Leens, E. J. Bush, Geo. W. Hicks, J. W. Frazier, W. W. Bradford, F. H. Doty, J. M. Wells, M. A. Nye and R. S. Keith; Clerk, C. E. Steward; Treasurer, G. P. Batts; Attorney, J. L. Wicks; Marshal, William Jones; Street Commissioner, E. W. Luster.

BUSINESS.

Though Creston has excellent railroad facilities, all lines are controlled by one company. Another line of road is needed and greatly desired, and efforts are being made to connect Creston with Des Moines, via Winterset, where the competition of the Rock Island, Milwaukee, Wabash and other rail roads would be secured. Several companies are filling in this gap, and it is confidently expected that in 1887, or the year following, the desired line will be secured, giving Creston direct connection with the capital, which will greatly add to Creston's importance as a wholesale, jobbing and manufacturing point, giving her the benefits of competition in freights, making a rate as cheap as other important points in the State, when, being 100 miles from any city of importance, Creston's future as a manufacturing and distributing point will be assured and her prospects flattering. In all branches of mercantile business Creston is well supplied, for her present size and population. The supply in these branches is fully equal to the demand. Real-estate is held at a fair price, and money invested in real-estate has always brought a good per cent. in rents.

Not many manufacturing establishments are located here as yet. Among the principal ones are: John Bartlett & Co., sash, door and blinds; Dietrich & Wallace, foundry and machine shops; the Brennan Machine Shops and Novelty Works; and the Bradford Flouring Mills. Page, Derr & Co. are starting a soap factory, employing fifteen hands. Fifteen thousand dollars is invested in the establishment, which has a capacity of 500 boxes a week.

Light is furnished in the city by the Creston Gas Light Company, and Regan Bros. early in 1886 began furnishing electric lights to those who desired them. At present they run fourteen thirty-candle power lights.

The two daily newspapers employ, together, from thirty-five to forty hands. There are also a blank-book manufactory and bindery, a candy factory, two cigar factories, a [illegible] factory, a pop factory and a dye house.

BOARD OF TRADE.

March 15, 1886, an organization was formed by a number of the leading business men of Creston, under the name of the Board of Trade. The design is, as stated in Article III, the material advancement of Creston's interests. Below are the first seven of the articles of incorporation:

ARTICLE I.—The name of the [illegible] shall be the Creston Board of Trade.

ARTICLE II.—The principal place of business shall be Creston, Iowa.

ARTICLE III.—Its object shall be the advancement of the commercial and material interests of the city of Creston, Iowa.

ARTICLE IV.—The officers of this association shall consist of a president, first and second vice-presidents, a secretary, a treasurer and a board of directors. Said officers to be elected at the annual meeting to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January of each year.

ARTICLE V.—The number of stockholders shall be limited to 100. The capital stock shall be limited to twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000), in two hundred and fifty (250) shares of one hundred dollars ($100) each. Said shares to be subject to quarterly assessments to be levied by the board of directors.

ARTICLE VI.—The indebtedness of this association shall be limited to five hundred dollars ($500). Private property shall be exempt from any debts of the association.

ARTICLE VII.—The affairs of this association shall be conducted by a Board of Directors consisting of five members.

The officers for 1886 are: President, C. S. Rex; First Vice-President, W. V. McQuaid; Second Vice-President, R. S. Keith; Treasurer, Phillip A. Derr; Secretary, S. A. Brewster; Directors, A. P. Stephens, H. S. Clarke, James Griffin, Thomas A. Heinly, W. W. Bradword.

The standing committees for 1886 are: Telegraph, Railroads and Public Carriers, W. N. Kelley, H. F. Hamilton and A. E. Keith; Commerce, B. F. Heinly, J. M. Scurr and D. H. Sain & Son; Manufactures, I. L. Mackemer, W. A. Page and Thomas McGrath; Advertising and Memorials, S. A. Brewster, J. Friend and R. S. Mackemer; Immigration, W. F. Patt, W. D. McDonald and M. Martins; Statistics, E. J. Bash, Valentine & Co. and S. A. Brewster; Reception, John Becker, Jr., A. E. Keith and Ed. Derr.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Creston Fire Department was organized from the Knights of Pythias in 1873, as a volunteer company. Buckets were purchased and a year later a double-fountain Babcock fire-extinguisher was added. This machine, which is drawn by horses, is well managed and has done efficient service. In 1875, the year after the water-works were put in, a carriage and 1,000 feet of hose were purchased. "Hose Company No. 1" was organized in 1875, from the employes of the railroad company, under Captain Bissett. A hook-and-ladder truck was also obtained this year. In 1876 a team was purchased for the chemical engine, and one man was employed on full time. Two men now draw salaries from the city for work performed for the fire department. In 1883 a two-horse hose carriage and team were added.

The apparatus is at different points in the city, but the chemical engine and the principal hose carriage are kept at the city engine house on Maple Street. The different companies were organized into one department early in 1886. The companies meet monthly and the department quarterly. The chiefs of the department have been successively, A. D. Temple, C. W. Fahlsing, John McCaffery, C. S. Rex and Robert Bissett. Creston has never sustained an extensive conflagration, which fact is largely owing to the efficiency of its fire department. But one city in Iowa—Waterloo—has as large a representation in the State Firemen's Association. The telephone system of fire alarm is now used, but an electric alarm system is contemplated.

POSTOFFICE.

Creston was made a postoffice during its first year, 1869. The postmasters since have been, by turns, E. L. Thompson, W. T. Maxwell, W. H. Cunningham, J. J. Steadman, L. C. Teed and S. R. Davis. Mr. Davis was appointed by President Cleveland, July 24, 1885. For the year ending June 30, 1887,

the gross receipts of the Creston office were $11,551.49, and expenditures, $4,304.93, or thirty-seven per cent. of the receipts. This postoffice belongs to the second class.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.

This beautiful theater, one of the finest between Chicago and Denver, was erected on Adams Street, west of the Summit House, in 1882. It is a handsome brick structure, seating 1,000 people, having that many chairs. The auditorium is on the ground floor, furnished with Andrew's elegant upholstered chairs, and the large and commodious gallery has not a poor seat in it. The whole is lighted by gas. A large stage, 35x60, with thirty complete sets of scenes, is suited to the requirements of the best traveling companies. It is the only theater in Iowa having a "scenic artist" connected with the house. Four large dressing rooms are attached to the house, and a piano is owned by the management. In connection with the house is a good dancing parlor, 50x60 feet in size. J. H. Patt is manager.

PARKS.

South Park was donated to the city, or rather dedicated to public use, by the "town company" at the time the city was first platted. It comprises one square, and is situated five squares south of the freight depot. When laid out trees were planted, and the square surrounded by a picket fence the first within many miles.

Lake Park is owned by the Creston Ice Company, which is indirectly connected with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company. Here is cut all the ice used by the railroad between Burlington and Council Bluffs, and also all the ice used in the city of Creston. The pond is made by damming a creek, receives the drainage of 30,000 acres of land, and is itself forty-five acres in extent. The land area of the park includes the remainder of an eighty-acre tract. A grove of twenty-five acres contains soft maple, elm, ash, evergreen, birch, beech, hard maple and other forest trees. A pleasant drive extends around this grove, and between it and the pond are enclosures containing a very large bear, several elk, deer, antelopes, a wolf, raccoon, coyote, etc. There is also an aviary, with an interesting collection of birds. The pond, or lake, affords facilities for boating and swimming in summer and skating in winter. Lake Park is a favorite resort for not only the Crestonians, but also Sunday-schools and other civic organization which desire to spend a day in recreation.

BANKS.

The first institution to receive money on deposit here or in Union County was the firm of S. H. Mallory & Co., established in 1871. They conducted a private bank until December 1, 1881, building a suitable brick block at the corner of Adams and Maple streets, where their successor, the First National Bank, now does business. This is but a re-organization or the old firm of S. H. Mallory & Co., and was effected at the date above given. The National Bank was started with a capital of $50,000, the same as now, and the following officers: S. H. Mallory, President; John S. Black, Cashier; Allen Mallory, Vice-President. The present officials are: H. S. Clarke, President; E. J. Bush, Vice-President; F. D. Ball, Cashier; T. J. Potter, A. B. Devoe, J. H. Duggan, W. K. Ball, H. S. Clarke, W. M. Scott and E. J. Bush. The annual deposits amount to about $150,000, and loans to nearly as much, the surplus fund is $5,000.

The Bank of Creston, also a private bank, was organized in February, 1875, by Benjamin Lombard, Jr., and J. L. Lombard, the latter acting as cashier. September 1, 1884, the institution was re-organized as a State bank, with B. Lombard, Jr., as President; J. L. Lombard as Vice-President; E. J. Bush as Cashier. The capital of the concern was

$50,000. July 1, 1886, the bank and its business was consolidated with the First National Bank.

J. B. Harsh did much of the business that usually is transacted by banks from his first arrival here, in 1869. In the autumn of 1874 the firm of Harsh & Perrin was organized, for banking and loan broking, and met with great success from the start. In the latter part of 1876 Mr. Perrin retired, Mr. Harsh purchasing his interest, and the business was continued under the name of J. B. Harsh & Co., until the latter part of 1882, when the Creston National Bank was organized, with a capital of $100,000. J. B. Harsh has been President continuously to the present time; R. E. Boyer is Cashier; W. J. Donlin, Assistant Cashier; and J. B. Harsh, Hon. F. J. Taylor, Charles Baxter, Dr. H. I. Nance, A. E. Harsh, A. F. Harsh, Hon. George W. Stage (of Bainbridge, Illinois), and Hon. M. A. McKey (of Mendota, Illinois), Directors. This bank is not only one of the largest moneyed institutions in Southern Iowa, but is one of the best managed and most profitable.

The Creston Loan and Trust Company was regularly incorporated December 20, 1882, under the laws of the State, and is designed to facilitate the supply of Eastern capital to Western farms. Loans are made to farmers within forty or fifty miles of Creston, generally for five years, and in no case without the personal inspection of some one representing the company. The mortgages thus obtained are sold in the East to banks and capitalists. J. B. Harsh is President; A. F. Harsh, Vice-President; and J. M. McCormack, Secretary. The magnitude of the company's transactions is indicated by the statement that the loans now average $35,000 per week. Mr. Harsh is the designer of the "coupon mortgage," which is provided with a number of interest notes, to be detached as they become due and forwarded to the proper place for collection. In this respect they resemble the United States coupon bond, and they are about as convenient and safe for the investor as that model security.

The Iowa State Savings Bank was organized in January, 1884, by W. A. Page, C. W. Eckerson, James Griffin, Ed. Derr, J. M. Joseph, T. S. H. Dougherty and R. P. Smith, as directors, and others, stockholders. John S. Black, also a stockholder, was elected as cashier, which position he still holds. W. A. Page, has been president from the start, and C. W. Eckerson, vice-president. There has been but one change in the directory—Robert Bissett takes the place of R. P. Smith (deceased). This bank has been gratifyingly successful from the start, and September 1, 1886, increased its capital from $30,000 to $50,000. The surplus is now $2,500. The deposits amount to $74,000, and the loans and discounts to $76,000. Correspondents, First National Bank of Chicago, and the Third National Bank of New York.

PRESS.

The first newspaper published here was the Creston *Headlight*, of which J. L. King was editor and proprietor. The name was subsequently changed to the Creston *Times*, but the paper was short-lived. Next came the Creston *Journal*, and the *Union County Independent*, both of which papers are now defunct. The *Gazette* is the oldest paper now published, both as a daily and a weekly. It was started in 1872, by J. B. Harsh, as a Republican weekly, the daily issue not being begun until August, 1880. Mr. Harsh is the present proprietor, though the paper has seen some changes of ownership, and Henry W. Lewis is business manager.

The Creston *Democrat* was established in 1875, and lived for some time, but finally succumbed, as did another paper called *The Democrat*, started later. The most recent paper that is not now issued was the *Monitor*, published by J. W. Graves, as a Prohibition organ.

The oldest paper, after the *Gazette*, of the

six now published at Creston is the *Independent American*, founded in 1877, at Afton, by W. H. Robb, who moved it to Creston two years later. It is a "Greenback" or "Anti-Monopoly" weekly. The *Advertiser* was started as a weekly by S. A. Brewster, July 1, 1879. It was first circulated free, and later put on a subscription basis. The daily issue was begun December 5, 1881. Mr. Brewster is still proprietor of the *Advertiser*, which is independent in politics. The Creston *Commonwealth* was founded October 19, 1882, by A. P. Leach, under the name of the *Commoner*. It is now published by S. R. Davis, the postmaster, and is a Democratic weekly. *Every Sunday Morning* is a society weekly, three years old, published by Leons & Waterman. The *Workingman's Advocate* is now in its second year, and is the official organ of the Knights of Labor.

PROFESSIONAL MEN.

The first lawyer to reside here was A. H. Sluss, who came in 1869, the first year of the city's existence, and remained five years. Others have since come and gone with confusing frequency. The roll of resident practitioners in 1886 includes J. F. McCormack, George P. Wilson, J. B. Harsh, John A. Patterson, D. W. Higbee, J. M. Locke, James W. McDill, Sullivan Bros., R. H. Hannah, John M. Hayes, James G. Ball, T. L. Maxwell, W. A. Spurrier, Judson L. Wicks, C. R. Leonard, W. J. Locke, J. H. Copnhuffer and N. B. Robertson.

The first physician here was named Stetson. He remained but a short time. The present physicians are: J. B. Wilson, W. H. Christie, H. I. Nance, B. N. Torrey, G. W. Fellows, J. D. Reynolds, J. A. Rawls, Edwin Schifferle and White, of the regular school, and A. J. Myers, homœopathic.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

For some time after Creston's prosperity was assured, the schools were furnished only temporary, or rented quarters. Little progress was made until 1876. At that time there were in use a two-story building with four rooms, at the corner of Mills and Elm streets, a one-story frame on South Elm street, and two rented rooms besides, making eight rooms in all. The enrollment was then 451.

In that year, 1876, Prof. B. W. Myers was engaged as superintendent of the city schools, and to him is due the chief credit for raising the school system to a high degree of efficiency. Aided by J. B. Harsh, C. J. Colby, Rev. T. V. Berry and others, the schools were organized in every particular, and a course of study framed, which is substantially the one now in use. The course includes twelve years, and is divided into three grades—Primary, Grammar and High. Pupils are prepared for any ordinary college course. Latin and German are both pursued. In this same year, 1876, the first brick buildings were erected here for school purposes. They were two in number, built from the same design, at a cost of $10,000 each. These furnished eight additional rooms, and yet although the former quarters were still used except those that had been rented, when the schools opened in January, 1877, every room was filled. In 1883 two more brick schoolhouses were erected in the west and east parts of town respectively, at a cost of $15,000 each. These added six rooms to the number previously in use. Two frame buildings were also constructed in the southeast and northwest parts of the city. These contain two rooms, and cost $2,000 each. The total cost of the public school buildings has therefore been $65,000. The Catholic school, which is mentioned in connection with the account of St. Malachy's Church, cost $10,000, and the German parochial school $1,000; so that the total school property in Creston has involved an expenditure of $76,000.

Professor Myers remained in charge of the school continuously for eight years, at the termination of which time the enrollment of

the schools is shown by the following brief statistical statement: Persons of school age, 2,108; males, 987; females, 1,121; enrollment, 1,706; average monthly enrollment, 1,150; average number belonging, 1,064; average daily attendance, 965; average daily absence, 67; average number tardy, 7.6; per cent. of punctuality, 99.5; per cent. of attendance, 92; number in Catholic school, 170; number in German school, 30; per cent. of population in school, 26.3.

For the past two years the schools have been in charge of Prof. H. B. Larrabee. The present School Board includes, Robert Bissett (President), James Griffin, A. E. Keith, C. W. Stanchfield, H. Newman and George Auracher. Albert Leens is Secretary and W. M. Scott, Treasurer. The graduates from the high school now number seventy-three, and are distributed through the different years as follows: 1878, 4; 1879, 21; 1880, 6; 1881, 8; 1883, 6; 1884, 8; 1885, 9; 1886, 11.

There was no graduating class in 1882.

The corps of teachers for 1886-'7 is as follows:

Principal of high school, O. E. French; assistants in high school, Mrs. S. E. J. Sawyer and Maude Gregory; teachers in grammar and primary departments, Mrs. Gertrude Wheeler, Etta Tourney, Alice Groves, Mrs. I. J. Horrell, Helen McIlwrick, Alice Sample, Hattie Veitch, Jennie McEachran, Anna Maroney, Mattie Groves, Lizzie Hayes, Myra La Rue, Nellie Jordan, Maggie Vincent, May Duggan, Hilda Leens, Ina Skinner, Daisy La Rue, Anna Dobbs and Theresa Tracy.

CHURCHES.

Creston does not as yet possess many attractive church buildings, but has made a start in that direction, and cannot long remain behind. There are at present fourteen church organizations, twelve of which have houses of worship.

St. Malachy's Roman Catholic Church.—The first mass at Creston was said in the shanty of M. Meskil (a section foreman on the railroad, which was then being constructed) in 1868, by Rev. B. P. McMenomy, then of Melrose, but now of Council Bluffs. Shortly thereafter he, in connection with James D. Duggan, since deceased, secured from the company a donation of two lots, on which to erect a church. At this time the interests of the church here were weak and the county was a mission field, supplied first, as above stated, by Father McMenomy, and, after his removal to Council Bluffs, by Rev. Fathers Malone, McKeon, Bauman and others, under whose several administrations the congregation grew in number and influence, and erected a comfortable church on their lots.

In 1873 Very Rev. Augustine Burns, O. S. B., fixed his residence at Creston, from which point he attended the surrounding missions, assisted by Rev. Placidus McKeever, O. S. B. A small parsonage, one story in height, was erected about this time. Possessed in a large degree of executive talent, energy and influence, he proceeded at once to develop his plans, secured an eligible site and started east on important business connected with his work, but proceeded no further than Burlington, where he was suddenly stricken and died, much regretted.

The pastorate remained vacant for some time, but was finally filled by Very Rev. Eugene Phelan, O. S. B. He remained until 1883, and during his ministration the small frame church, which had been built in the early days of Creston, was enlarged by an addition 30 x 24 feet in dimensions. In 1880 a handsome brick school building was erected, the grounds costing about $1,500, and the building $8,500.

Very Rev. Stephen Lyons, O. S. B., succeeded Father Phelan in 1883, and is now in charge. Since coming here he has nearly paid an indebtedness of $6,000, which he found on the school-house, and has put a fence around the parish cemetery, the ground for

which had been purchased by Father Phelan. The parsonage has been raised to two stories in height, and a foundation put under it, making virtually a new building. This cost about $2,000. These improvements alone would mark the administration of Father Lyons as a successful one, but the crowning work of his pastorate is the construction of a new brick church, which was begun in the spring of 1885, and will cost, when completed, probably $25,000. The building fronts on Clarke Street, and is 140 feet from front to rear, fifty-five feet wide, and 135 feet high to the top of the cross which will surmount the tower. The seating capacity will be 750. The auditorium will be used some time in 1887.

The growth of the congregation has more than kept pace with that of the city, and it now comprises 170 families, 120 of whom reside in town, and fifty in the surrounding country. Creston is the headquarters of the Order of Saint Benedict in Iowa, and Father Lyons is the local superior of the same. The members of this order have so far chiefly devoted themselves to missionary work, but hope to start a school for higher education at this place. At present the only school is the parochial, where 175 pupils receive elementary instruction from the Benedictine Sisters. The Sisters own half a block some seven blocks southeast of the church, and have a convent and academy. The buildings are not of such a permanent character as it is hoped soon to erect. Eight Sisters are now here, and there are four candidates preparing for admission.

Father Lyons is a native of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, having been born at Latrobe, in that county, November 4, 1851. He passed his boyhood on the farm which his father tilled, and at the age of fifteen entered St. Vincent's College, in Westmoreland County. In this institution he devoted thirteen years to preparation for his life work, and was then ordained. He was first sent to St. Mary's College, Graham County, North Carolina, to assist as professor. At the expiration of six months he was appointed president of the institution, which office he held for nearly three years, when he was sent to Creston, Iowa. Here, for over a year, he assisted Father Phelan, and in 1883, as before mentioned, he was given full charge of the work at this important place. That he is well fitted for the service of the church is attested by his long and thorough preparation for it and by the brilliant record he has made during his brief pastorate here.

The First Congregational Church.—The first sermon ever preached in Creston by a minister of any Protestant denomination was preached by Rev. Robert Hunter, pastor of the Congregational church of Nevinville, the last of November or first of December, 1869. He slept, Saturday night, on the counter of Mr. Cresswell's store, and on Sunday morning he held religious services and preached the gospel there. The building is now used as a residence, 202 East Union Street.

By the labors of Rev. J. W. Picket, Home Missionary Superintendent of Southern Iowa, the church was organized by a council held in the Public Library hall, January 28, 1873. There were but seven members, five women and two men. Rev. N. M. Calhoun, from Yale Theological Seminary, was the first pastor, serving this church and that at Nevinville on alternate Sabbaths. Under his efficient leadership the church grew to a membership of thirty-five. The chapel, costing with lot and furnishings about $1,700, was dedicated free of debt June 14, 1874. Its successful completion was largely due to the energy and good management of one of the trustees, Mr. A. P. Child. It seats over 200, and is a very plain but very pleasant house of worship. Mr. Calhoun was very popular, and his resignation was deeply regretted.

His successor, Rev. Nathan H. Whittlesey, was born in New Preston, Litchfield County, Connecticut, April 12, 1848. He attended school and worked on his father's farm until

September, 1866, when he went to Hopkins Grammer School, New Haven, for a year, preparing for Yale. He graduated with honor from Yale College in 1871, and from the Yale Theological Seminary in 1875. On invitation of Rev. Mr. Calhoun he became his successor, June 12, 1875. He was ordained by council October 1, 1875. June 29, 1876, he married Miss Harriet W. Newell, of New Haven, Connecticut, whose assistance has been invaluable to the church and community. The present pastorate is now in its twelfth year. The membership has increased to about 200, largely by conversions from the world. The congregation contribute annually about $1,700 for home expenses including Sunday-schools, and $500 for missionary and benevolent objects. They have bought and paid for a lot, corner Montgomery and Division streets, and have funds amounting to [illegible] and the erection of a new church. Old and young are well organized for the different departments of church work. The ladies have an efficient aid society; the young people conduct a young people's meeting, and a literary and social society known as the Round Table. There are three missionary societies, for ladies, misses and children. In addition to the home Sunday-school of about 150 members, this church conducts the Mayflower Sunday-school, in the Pine Street Opera House, and furnishes some of the officers and teachers for three schools in the country. Besides its own work this church has been among the foremost in all union philanthropic and reform movements, such as the Young Men's Christian Association, temperance, and the care of the poor.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—Rev. M. Mitchell was the first minister of the Methodist Episcopal church who preached regularly in Creston. Services were held in a room on Adams street, formerly occupied as a bakery.

In the fall of 1872 Rev. W. H. W. Bresee began his pastorate, which continued for two years. He organized the first Methodist Episcopal church, and started the enterprise of building a house of worship, which was successfully prosecuted. The present comfortable edifice, built at a cost of $2,200, at the corner of Maple and Clarke streets, is a monument of the energy and devotion of the small society of that day, under his leadership. Dr. U. P. Golliday filled the pulpit a part of the following year with ability, and the time till conference was filled by Revs. Avery and W. J. Presson. The latter was returned by the ensuing conference, and left a permanent record in the erection of a good and commodious parsonage, costing $1,500. In November, 1875, Rev. A. J. Andreas began his pastorate, and continued it with success for one year. He was succeeded in November, 1876, by Rev. A. Brown. Rev. G. P. Bennett was here from 1877 to 1879; Rev. P. F. Bresee, 1879–'81; Rev. C. W. Blodgett, 1881–'3; Rev. W. F. Harned, 1883–'4, and Rev. W. H. Rees, the present pastor, came here in the autumn of 1884.

During the pastorate of Rev. P. F. Bresee the church building was enlarged by the construction of a wing on either side. Its seating capacity is now 500. In 1887 it is proposed to build a $10,000 brick church on North Elm street.

The first members were five in number: A. S. Golden, O. Lineberger, J. W. Graves, E. E. Clark and E. Gunnerree. Of these, O. Lineberger still resides at Creston. At the end of Mr. Rees' second year the membership was sixty. Now it has reached the gratifying number of 370.

The stewards of the church now are: Rev. J. Gibson, D.D., C. S. Striker, W. H. Arnold, T. A. Heitley, I. B. Jordan, W. M. Munson, A. J. Rawls, M.D. and George Holcomb. The trustees are: John Gibson, C. E. Autenreith, E. H. Sain, W. M. Boyles, J. C. Wallace, J. M. Davis, A. J. Webber and J. C. Smith. R. A. Hogeboom is superintendent of the Sunday-school, which has an attendance of 220. Dur-

ing the past year $629 was contributed for benevolences, making it the banner church, in that line of work, in the conference of Southwestern Iowa.

The Presbyterian Church was organized in February, 1876, with ten members. The pastor regularly called and installed was Rev. C. H. De Long, who remained until November, 1881. Then after four weeks Rev. J. B. Welty came to Creston. Though never installed as pastor, he filled the pulpit until March 1, 1886. For the next six months the church had occasional supplies, but commencing September 1, 1886, Rev. Dr. W. E. Hamilton, of Afton, was engaged. The society has a brick church at the corner of Adams street and New York avenue, built in 1880–'1, at a cost of $8,000. It is well furnished, and will seat 200. Previous to the erection of this edifice a rented hall was used. The present membership of the church is about ninety. The Sunday-school is equipped with a good library, and has an attendance of 120. The trustees of the church are: W. M. Kelley, President; John M. Hays, Secretary; James W. McDill, Dr. A. J. Myers and D. H. Hamilton. The elders are: Prof. H. B. Larrabee; Clerk of the Session, William McClure, D. H. Ham, Andrew Dobbs and John M. Hays.

The Regular Baptist Church was organized in August, 1872, with eighteen members, Rev. W. P. Pattison, of Red Oak, being their pastor. He resigned in December, 1873, and the society had no preaching until January, 1875, when Rev. Mr. Newell assumed the pastorate, which he held for six months and then removed to Virginia, Iowa. Rev. J. D. Burr came in 1877 and remained till 1881, during which time the society built a church at the corner of Maple and Mills streets, at an expenditure of $5,000. Rev. A. Hertzog filled the pulpit from 1882 to 1884, and Rev. H. C. Nash, the present pastor, came in the autumn of 1884. The membership of the church is 120. W. J. Patt has been for five years past the superintendent of the Sunday-school, which has an attendance of about 100. The officers of the church are: Deacons, C. J. Colby, W. F. Patt, John Hinchey, George Brotherton and George Morgan; trustees, C. J. Colby, Richard Strout, John Hinchey, E. J. Lichty and G. D. Newcomb; clerk, Louie R. Delmege; treasurer, George Brotherton.

Evangelical Church.—This is one of the oldest churches in Creston, being established as a mission as far back as 1870, the Rev. A. D. Kooker being its first minister. In 1871 the Rev. W. King was detailed to conduct the mission, who was succeeded in 1873, by the Rev. E. B. Utt, and in 1874 by Rev. A. J. Myers.

In 1875 Rev. T. Monismith being appointed to the mission, it was judged advisable to build a church, and, on due consideration, a subscription list was circulated with such success that a suitable lot was bought and a fine church erected thereon, which was dedicated in the month of February, 1876, by the Rev. D. H. Kooker, of the Des Moines District. About the time the church was dedicated a society was organized, which now comprises about fifty members. The church property is valued at $2,500.

The Christian Church was organized August 15, 1875, with nine members, and Elder T. V. Berry ministered to it for some time. Services were held at his residence for some time, and then a lot was procured and a neat church erected in the northwestern part of the city, at a cost of $1,800, which was opened for public worship in 1877. Rev. J. P. Roach is the present pastor. The membership, which is largely in the country, is 150.

St. John's German Evangelical Church is on the south side. It has fifty members and seventy-five Sunday-school scholars. A parochial school is attached, and here about twenty-five children are instructed by the pastor. The church property is valued at $3,000.

The United Presbyterian Church has fifty-

five members and seventy Sunday school scholars. The church property is valued at $1,800. Rev. Mr. Lafferty is the present pastor.

The Episcopalians and Unitarians have organizations, but no church buildings and only occasional services.

The Swedes have three religious organizations—Lutheran, Methodist Episcopal and Baptist. The two former have church buildings.

SECRET ORDERS.

Creston has a large number of secret societies, all the principal organizations and many not so well known being represented. The leading order is of course Masonry, which is now fifteen years old in the place. Bunker Hill Lodge, No. 302, A. F. & A. M., was organized March 20, 1871, and chartered June 5, 1872, with eight members. Three years later, June 19, 1874, Bunker Chapter was formed, with eleven members. Bethna Commandery, K. T., was organized by dispensation October 11, 1876.

The other great order, Odd Fellowship, was even earlier in planting its banner at Creston, for Creston Lodge, No. 207, I. O. O. F., was organized November 7, 1870, by D. D. G. M., N. W. Rowell, of Afton. The other branches of Odd Fellowship have since been organized, and a second lodge of Masons was some time ago found necessary.

Among the other organizations are the Grand Army of the Republic, Knights of Labor, United Order of American Mechanics, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Seven Wise Men, Knights of Pythias and Druids.

VILLAGES.

UNDER the head Early History has been given mention of the early villages of Petersville, Pisgah, West Union, Union City and Highland. These are now enjoying modest prosperity also the villages of Cromwell, Thayer and Kent.

CROMWELL

is situated near the line between Union and Adams counties, and is 195 miles west of Burlington.

It was laid out in 1868, and was, at first, supposed to be the intended division station of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. The first house was built by Thomas Ballard, in the autumn of 1868. W. V. Lemon and E. S. Cresswell opened a general store, under the firm name of Lemon & Cresswell one month after Ballard's arrival. J. C. Williams came a few weeks later, about the first of January, 1869, and opened a general store. G. W. Timmby opened a large hotel soon after. Immigrants came rapidly, and by June, 1869, there were perhaps 700 people in Cromwell. Then the bubble burst. Creston was made the division station, and scores of investors at Cromwell were disappointed. By the close of the year about 200 people were left in the village, and this has remained the size of the place since. It is a pleasant village, and enjoys an excellent trade, being in the midst of a fine farming country.

The postmasters of Cromwell have been, in succession, W. A. Ballard, J. B. Wilson, J. C. Woodruff, M. W. Purviance, E. Henderson and Dr. R. H. Johnson.

A district school was maintained until 1876, when an addition was made to the school building, and the school graded. Two teachers are usually employed. The enrollment is about 100. At present writing S. K. Clark is principal and Belle Harrison, assistant. The annual expenditures for school purposes amount to $1,000. The School Board comprises Jacob Geier, President, E. S. Cresswell, Secretary, and W. M. Spurr.

The Congregational Church was organized with eight members under the direction of the Rev. J. W. Pickett, one of the Home Missionary Superintendents of Iowa, and, after being supplied for some time by the Rev. Hunter (who died in 1872), was presided over by the Rev. E. G. Carpenter, who continued as its minister for two or three years, being succeeded by the Rev. Charles Little, who, after officiating for nine months, was followed by the Rev. W. T. Bartle, who supplied with much acceptance until 1876, when the Rev. C. O. Parmenter took charge of the church. Rev. Albert R. Thompson came in 1879, Rev. Dallas D. Tibbits in 1882, and Rev. R. W. Jamison in 1884. In 1875 the society built a house of worship at a cost of $2,200. It was dedicated free of debt. The present

membership is 116. George R. Sheets is superintendent of the Sunday-school, which has an enrollment of 140, and a usual attendance of from eighty to 100.

The Methodist Episcopal Church erected their house of worship in 1876-'7. It is a frame structure and cost $2,400. Services are held every other Sunday by Rev. A. H. Collins. His predecessor was Rev. J. M. Conrad, and his, Rev. J. H. Sensney. Rev. Clammer was the first pastor. The membership of the society is about sixty-five. Thomas Osborne is superintendent of the Sunday-school. Attendance, fifty-five.

Canby Lodge, No. 354, A. F. & A. M., was organized July 20, 1875, under a dispensation granted by the Grand Master of the State to the eleven signers of the petition for such dispensation. The first officers were J. A. Rogers, Worshipful Master; William Southwell, Senior Warden; George B. Johnston, Junior Warden; O. F. Phelps, Treasurer; Thomas Johnston, Secretary. For 1886 George B. Johnston was Worshipful Master; E. S. Cresswell, Senior Warden; J. M. Himes, Junior Warden; A. S. Bailey, Treasurer; R. H. Johnston, Secretary. The lodge has twenty-seven members, and meets Tuesday evening on or before each full moon.

Cromwell Lodge, No. 237, I. O. O. F., was organized April 26, 1872, under a dispensation granted by the officers of the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Iowa, dated April 21, 1872, by H. A. White, of Mt. Ayr, with six charter members. After organizing, an election was held, by which the following officers were elected: R. H. Johnston, Noble Grand; S. J. Goldsmith, Vice Grand; E. S. Cresswell, Secretary, and M. W. Purviance, Treasurer. At present writing the officers are: J. B. Hamilton, Noble Grand; William C. McDonald, Vice Grand; E. S. Cresswell, Secretary. The lodge meets every Saturday evening, and has fifty-six members. It owns its own hall, and is worth over $2,000.

John A. Adams Post, No. 195, G. A. R., was mustered June 23, 1884. The officers for 1886 are: William H. Reynolds, Commander; R. H. Johnston, Adjutant; J. M. Himes, Senior Vice-Commander; I. A. Sutton, Junior Vice-Commander; A. S. Bailey, Surgeon; I. S. Hathaway, Quartermaster; L. L. Goole, Officer of the Day; George R. Sheets, Chaplain. The post has thirty-two members, and meets each Wednesday evening on or before each full moon.

The first physician here was J. B. Wilson, now of Creston. He came here in 1869, and remained till 1872. R. H. Johnston came in 1869, and has been in practice ever since; is the present postmaster. E. Henderson came to Cromwell seven years ago, and has been in practice since. A. S. Bailey has been in practice five years, though in the drug business for a longer time.

The business firms of Cromwell in August, 1886, are: Bayles & Barr, general store; L. D. Blosser, blacksmith; A. S. Bailey, physician and druggist; F. B. Cochran, grocery, meat market and restaurant; E. S. Cresswell, general store; Mrs. Rebecca Cochran, hotel; James Gault, grain and coal; Mrs. Greeson, millinery; E. Henderson, physician; R. H. Johnston, physician and postmaster; S. M. Johnston, harness, boots and shoes; H. Murphy, general store; W. C. McDonald, mill and elevator; Phelps & Pickering, grocery; G. S. Pickering, wagon maker; W. M. Sparr, hardware and building material; J. S. Van Doren, grain buyer; Mrs. P. O. Wright, weaver.

THAYER

is the station farthest east in the county, on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, being located in Jones Township, two miles west of the Clarke County line. It was laid out about the year 1868, the first house being erected by J. H. Reed in October of that year.

The early merchants of the place were Gibson & Clarke, Parsons & Payne and James

Griffin, R. H. Atkinson, La Favre & Atkinson and George Gay. The first hotel was run by J. C. Lucas. The present proprietor is John Loy. The first physician was A. J. Guthrie, who remained until 1874, then went to a medical school, and afterward died at Afton. Dr. James Evans was here one year, and is now in Nebraska. Dr. F. J. Patchin was here 1880-83, and is now at Nichols, Nebraska. Dr. M. B. Coletrain has now been a resident practitioner for two years.

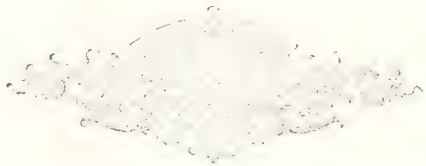
The Evangelical Church was organized in 1871, and purchased a building that had been erected for a town hall. It was in an unfinished state. The pastors have been Revs. D. H. Kooker, now of Des Moines, who organized the church. E. E. Banta, S. W. Kipplinger, Jacob Rank, J. M. Johnson, S. Hoover, W. King, S. Krell, W. Kleintelter, William Bates and J. McCauley. In 1874, during the administration of S. W. Kipplinger, the church was completed and dedicated. Services are held every two weeks. The present membership is twenty-eight. The Catholics have had service at irregular intervals since 1873, when a small church was built in this point. About twenty families belong to this parish. Father Alvin, of Creston, is the priest in charge.

Thayer has a Masonic lodge and a district school. The population does not exceed 100. The business firms of 1887 are:

Bird Bros., general merchandise, grain and coal; M. B. Coletrain, physician; Richard Douglas, station agent; Richard Elliott, Ohio House; Hendricks & Stump, general merchandise, grain and coal; John Loy, hotel; S. S. Morrow, hardware and agricultural implements; J. C. Stort, postmaster; Zahler & Geddes, blacksmiths.

KENT.

Kent is a station on the Creston branch. Two passenger and four freight trains pass here daily. The village contains two general stores, one grocery, one blacksmith shop, one wagon shop, and about seventy-five inhabitants.



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